SUNDAY
November 12, 2023

BENGALURU
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REGION IN RUINS

Counting the deaths in Gaza

Every area in the strip has been targeted by Israeli air strikes, killing more than 11,000 people so far

FAQ » PAGE 13

Nawaz Sharif: Pakistan's new sheriff faces daunting tasks

PROFILES » PAGE 14

Dawn of a new drug route from Myanmar to Mizoram

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England finishes campaign with a win, knocks out Pakistan

SPORT » PAGE 17

One voter, two States, two votes

Over 3,000 voters in 14 villages along the Maharashtra-Telangana boundary get to vote in both States, thanks to an ongoing dispute

Abhinay Deshpande
CHANDRAPUR/K.B. ASIFABAD

Amid the desolate hilly terrain between Jivti taluk of Chandrapur district in Maharashtra and Kerameri mandal in Kumuram Bheem Asifabad district in Telangana are 14 villages in the Parandoli and Anthapur gram panchayats. Here, 3,023 residents, of a population of nearly 5,000, have the power of the vote in both Maharashtra and Telangana.

Both gram panchayats, dependent on the Maharashtra and Telangana governments, and the residents participate in almost all elections on both sides, says Laxman Kamble, the first sarpanch of Parandoli, elected in 1995.

With polling to the Telangana Assembly on November 30, these villages, predominantly occupied by Marathi-speaking Scheduled Caste (SC) communities, will exercise their voting right owing to an unresolved boundary dispute. The population includes Lambada tribespeople and Muslims who had migrated from drought-hit Nanded, Parbhani, Latur, and Jalna districts of Marathwada between 1970 and 1971 in search of a livelihood. The candidates are actively campaigning in these hilly areas, recognising the significance of the villages in the electoral landscape.

People in this area draw benefits of social welfare schemes from both States. ABHINAY DESHPANDE

"We vote in both States' elections, but several of our problems, including road connectivity, healthcare and higher education remain unresolved," says Pundalik Waghmare, a Dalit farmer from Parandoli.

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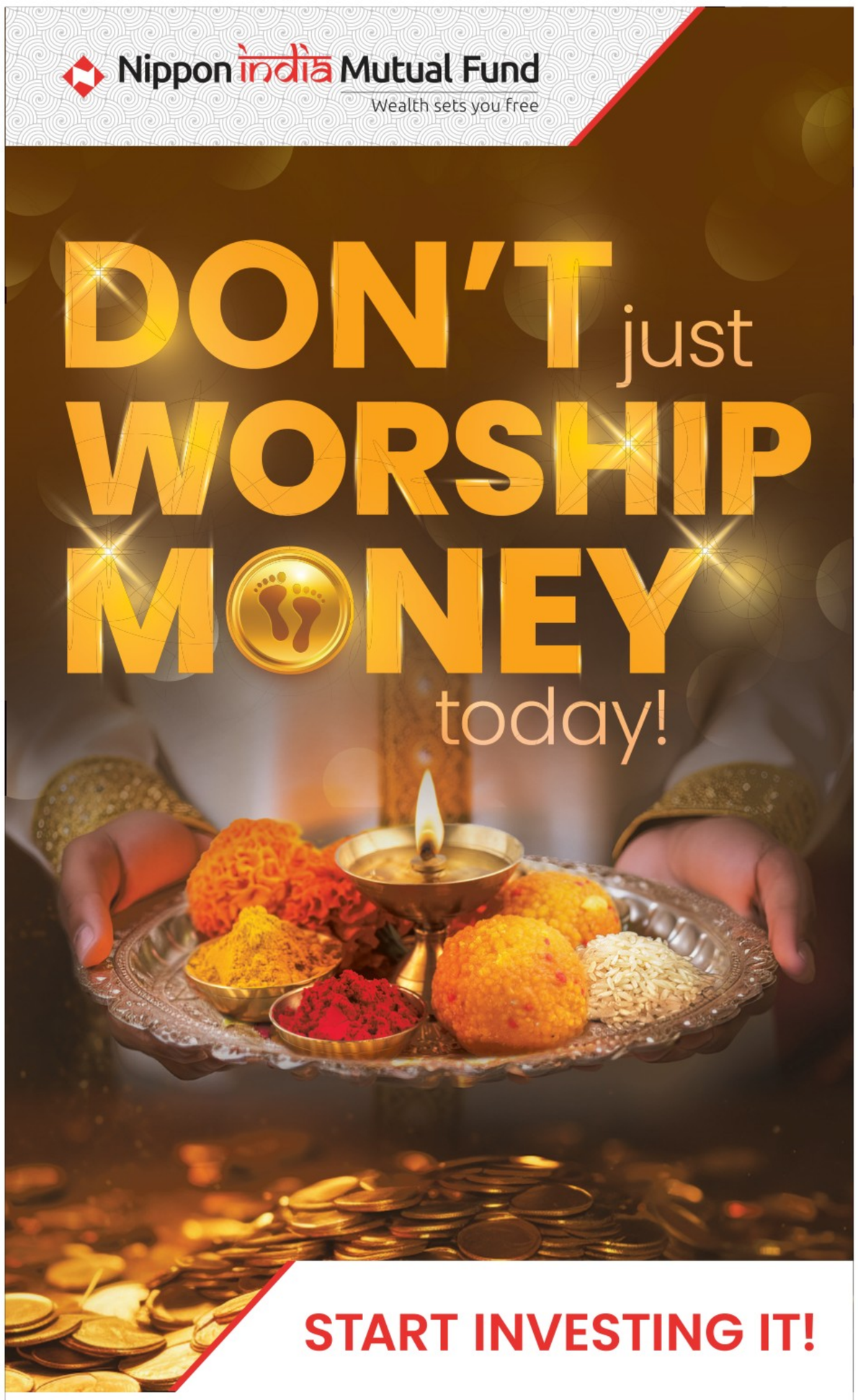
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NEARBY

Will Vijayendra pose a challenge to Congress?

BENGALURU
The appointment of B.Y. Vijayendra, MLA, as the BJP's State president is expected to offer a stiff challenge to the ruling Congress. » Page 6

MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

THE HINDU
greets its readers on the occasion of
Deepavali
There will be no issue of THE HINDU on November 13, 2023 as Deepavali is a holiday.
Readers can access the online edition at www.thehindu.com

High Court frowns upon daughter's 'gift' to parents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The obligation of children to look after their parents during the evening of their life becomes more vigorous when the children have got the property of the parents through gift, said the High Court of Karnataka.

"Law, religion and morality impose an obligation on the children to look after their parents at least during the evening of their life and this obligation becomes more vigorous when the children have taken the property of the parents by way of gift," the court observed while rejecting a woman's plea questioning a tribunal's order cancelling the property given to her by her father by way of a gift deed.

Appeal rejected

A Division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna S. Dixit, made these observations while rejecting an appeal filed by Kavitha R. of Gubbi taluk in Tumakuru district.

The appellant had questioned the verdict of a single judge upholding the order of the tribunal, set up under the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, in cancelling the gift deed as it was found that she, along with her husband, had physically assaulted her parents and driven them out of their own house.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 6

Khalistan Tiger Force case: NIA files chargesheet

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Saturday filed the first supplementary chargesheet in the Khalistan Tiger Force (KTF) case involving smuggling of arms and explosives from Pakistan.

Among those arraigned are Amritpal Singh alias Ammy and Amrik Singh, who were both deported from the Philippines; Jassa Singh, and Gagandeep Singh alias Mithi.

It is alleged that Canada-based "listed individual" Arshdeep Singh alias Arsh Dalla, along with accused Manpreet Singh Peeta, had indoctrinated and recruited Ammy, Amrik Singh, Jassa Singh and Mithi into his banned terrorist group.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Orders for 1 lakh Deepavali lamps light up Kashmir's Muslim-majority hamlet

Peerzada Ashiq
SRINAGAR

Kumaar Mohalla, a locality in central Kashmir, was abuzz with unprecedented activities this November, with kilns running throughout the day. Noor Muhammad Kumar, 54, a potter, roped in his two brothers and neighbours to meet orders for 10,000 earthen lamps from outside the State, for Deepavali. "It has been a busy month. The only time we would take breaks was during daily namaz," he said.

Kumaar Mohalla now has only about six families, whose kilns are still functional and churning out lamps. NISSAR AHMAD

Kashmir Valley has a minuscule Hindu population. However, with the growing number of jawans, migrant labourers, and Hindu families celebrating Deepavali in Kashmir this year, scores of temples, renovated across the Valley in the past four years, are set for special prayers on the occasion.

Kumaar Mohalla itself, however, once home to nearly 25 families of potters, now has just about six families whose kilns are still functional. Muhammad Umar, 29, from a traditional potter's family in Srinagar's Ishber Nishat area, is witness to the decline of the sector over the past three decades.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 8

Gasping for breath

Every winter, air pollution spikes in the entire Indo-Gangetic Plain when pollutants from various sources are not dispersed easily because of the drop in temperature and wind speed. The worst affected by this deadly turn of events is Delhi

In the Annual World Air Quality Report released by IQAir, a Swiss air quality technology company, India is ranked eighth among countries with the worst air quality index. Even worse is the fact that 14 cities from North India occupy the list of 20 most polluted cities in the world.

The entire Indo-Gangetic Plain witnesses a spike in air pollution every winter. During the season, roughly the same atmospheric condition prevails throughout the region, which includes large parts of Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, bringing it under an "airshed".

Winter sees a spike in air pollution as the drop in temperature renders it difficult for the pollutants emitted by different sources to disperse. Vehicle and diesel generator exhaust, heavy industry emissions, soil and road dust, open waste burning, and biomass burning all pollute the atmosphere throughout the year, but the noxious discharges get accumulated in the winter, amplifying the effect.

Debates over the extent of the impact of stubble burning on air quality are going on. But this practice of clearing paddy crop residue from fields to sow wheat by burning it during October-November makes the situation worse. This November too, air pollution spiked in the region covering the national capital with toxic smog for about a week. Delhi remained the "most polluted" major city in the world for days together in November, according to IQAir's live data for over 100 cities.

(Text by:Vighnesh P. Venkitesh)

Wilting smoke: Stubble being burnt behind mustard fields near Ambala. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Left fuming: Charred remains in a field after stubble burning near Ambala. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Ground Zero: A thick layer of smog covers the Central Vista in the national capital. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Clear signs: The Signature Bridge in New Delhi engulfed in dense smog. R.V. MOORTHY

Risky affair: A farmhand pulls out a cycle tube from burning stubble in a field near Ambala bypass in Chandigarh. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Classifieds

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HARYANI
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KONKANI
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MANIPURI
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MALAYALAM

RCLC KERALITE girl 28/165 B.Sc Central Govt. employee in Chennai seeks alliance from well settled boys 9446097763

MUSLIM DIVORCEE 51 / 5'3", highly qualified, employed and well settled seeking marriage proposals from professionally qualified / self established Muslim male preferably not exceeding 58 years of age. 9074319636, 8075649557.

SEEKING ALLIANCE for Nair girl, 39, Uthram, Ph.D, Associate Professor at a UK University, never married Contact email id: krishnakumarak@yahoo.com or rajeswarikrishnan2002@gmail.com

TRIVANDRUM BASED Nair Ezhava parents inviting suitable alliance for their daughter working in Paris after BS–MS from IISER Trivandrum and MS from Sorbonne University Paris. 28/168cms/Chithira Preference for Hindu Boys settled in Europe/UK 8075963236

MALAYALEE NAIR girl 27/Sep 96, 155, Karthika, CA(UK), employed in UAE, seeks alliance from professionally qualified (PG) and well settled boys employed in India or abroad. Please Whatsapp +971504947205

NRI

BALIJA NAIDU, Bharani 26/150 (B.S., M.S., in USA) working as V.P in Fin. Firm in NewYork seeks well settled S.W Grooms in US. Ct: 9842350850

Hindu Mudaliyar Girl 32/167cm, BS, US Citizen Working in IT MNC Seeks Dr./S.Engr. Boys settled in US. Wapp: +1(469) 305-6277 / Ph: 63824 71829.

TAMIL

NATHAMAR UDAYAR, catholic 30 yrs, HR–MNC in Chennai, girl separated shortly with null and void order looking for catholic boy below 33 yrs, premier institute or professional with null and void or unmarried with clean habits, WhatsApp to 6380390185

RC GIRL 26/170cm Working In Microsoft. Parents Keralite Settled In Chennai. Own Business Seeks Chennai Based Groom From a Good Family Background. 98841 85583

NADAR CHRISTIAN girl from well educated, very rich family, fair, God–fearing, very beautiful; employed in a reputed Company drawing good Salary. The boy should be well educated from a Christian rich family. Parents Contact. 98401 29090.

COSMOPOLITAN

KERALA HINDU, Girl, Divorcee 34/166 cm, Wheatish, CNB, Ph.D, Asst Professor in Central University, Delhi. Well educated family, seeks similar minded, working in Delhi/NCR. Ph: 9447400724

DOCTOR

TAMIL MUSLIM parents invite alliance for daughter MBBS 24yrs / 152cm / wheatish from religious Tamil–speaking MBBS/PG Doctors settled in Hyderabad. C/W: 7013724670

SOUTH–BASED AFFLUENT Christian family invites alliances for their daughter age 27 Post–Graduate Doctor. Suitable alliances from Christian Groom–PG Doctor contact: drajan3809@gmail.com/8920762703

PROPOSAL FROM Doctors For a Fair Beautiful Hindu Doctor Girl MBBS MD 31 Years. Ct: 95000 23500

TAMIL HINDU SC AD 32year Doctor MBBS, DCH, DNB (Pediatrics) working in Pondicherry seeking groom Contact : 9443634719

28 YEAR Beautiful Hindu Doctor, Kerala, working in U.K. Seeks Doctor Groom residing in U.K/England. WhatsApp 9846992540

TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR – 23. MBBS., Fair Girl. Seeks Suitable Groom. Doctor, Engineer. Abroad. Ct : 7824023030.

CHRISTIAN DKV 33/157 B.Tech, MSc, Ph.D, University employed, USA seeks professional working 33–35yr groom in USA, well educated, God–fearing family. Mail: greysel1990@gmail.com/ WhatsApp: 9444386465/ 9566203917

TAMIL MUSLIM Girl, 28/165cm Electrical Engineer, Singapore Citizen, Good looking Seeks suitable alliance– NRI, Overseas Educated, Good Family, Willing to relocate Ct: 8056007500/email: habeebmillennia@gmail.com

Tamil Muslim, Elite Family MA(HR) MNC Chennai Seeks Professional or Business Groom. Ct: 9841659786.

CHRISTIAN AD 41, 155cm Government 3 Lakh / yr CNB 1st marriage Ct : 7418679079.

BC (KALLAR) Remarriage 39 Yrs M.Sc M.Phil Working in Pvt School (Admin Dept.) seeks good looking & good professional groom from same / equal caste. 9677970128,9486457204

DOCTOR REDDY Elite Family Fair29/ 160 Pooram Simmam MD AIIMS Delhi Seeks Professional Groom CNB 9841047406

Hindu Nadar, 26yrs, PhD. (NanoTech) Gd looking, seeks highly qualified from same caste 9585452877/ 7639366767 e-mail: arjunapandian@hotmail.com

PILLAI / MUDALIAR, 34, MD, Well Settled family seeks Groom aged 34-36 yrs, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Contact: 93458 55735

GROOM WANTED Elite Mudaliyar, MBBS, MS, 28yrs, well Educated Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

HINDU TAMIL Mudaliar Chennai Girl / 32 /155 /58/MA/HR Mgr/MNC B'lore /Fair Beautiful /Kettai 3rd padham /Viruchigam /Chevvai Dosham /Divorcee No kids /Seeks suitable Mudaliar Grooms Subsect No Bar, Up To 36 Yrs. Contact 9043735140.

HINDU/CHRI, 1992 working Asis Prof (Dr, HOD) Univer Chennai, seeking working groom 9443118355

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR B.E/Kettai / MNC, 1996 Born, Reputed Business family seeks alliance. Ph: 98400 93322

SWE BE MNC Chennai 40/167cm 20Lac p.a BC from Coimbatore, 1st Marriage Mirugaseerisham Rishaba Rasi, seeks Groom BC/FC only. Ct: 89394-68628.

TAMIL YADAVA Girl (Divorcee) BE, MBA Software Engineer 38 Years seeks alliance from Engineers / Professionals.Caste no bar. Call. 9444915440

SC AD Hindu, BE MBA, SBI Manager, 35yrs, Mesham–Bharani, seeking suitable & qualified Groom. Ph–8056104103

HINDU NADAR girl, 29 yrs, 168 cms, 65kg, ME, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam Seeks well settled, qualified groom. Ct : 96265 15511

DOCTOR DCH,MD(PATHOLOGY) 38yrs, Hindu, BC, Divorcee without Child, temporarily working in Government, seeks well settled, compatible & affectionate Groom. CNB. Ph: 9176289180

HINDU NADAR 25/165, MBBS, MS, USA Settled. Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: KA RAMAN NADAR 9380791999/ 9047192999

RICH NAIDU, 27yrs, BE, MBA in UK, Ellie Business Family. Seeks Suitable Groom Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC 29/167 M.Tech SRM Engineer girl now @ Bangalore TCS Seeks Govt or private job Native North T.N. 9442477699, Email: jsdco2012@gmail.com

HINDU, MUDALIYAR 25y / 158cm /kannada / Tamil/Mca lecturer/divorcee seeks well settled, clean habits boy with very good family background (CNB) CT.9036778054

GROOM WANTED Rich Gounder, 31yrs, M.Arch, Elite Business Family in Chennai, CNB Ct: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SC (AD), 24yrs, BE, Well Educated Family Background. Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

GROOM WANTED Hindu Nadar BE, 30/ 165, 50000, Divorcee, Caste No Bar, KA Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

SC ADIDRAVIDA Divorced No Child, Age 38 BE EEE Wkg in MNC .Well settled. Seeks Suitable Groom. 9940347310

SC AD 25/B.E.,Software Sr.Test Analyst [Cognizant Technology] 60,000p.m. Seeking Bridegroom. Ph:9444993417

HINDU NADAR 29yrs 156cm MBBS, MD (Divorce) seeks Dr./ Er./ Any Govt Officer in Chennai. Ct: 8939005008

TAMIL

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HINDU NADAR, 26/165cm, B.Tech, MBA/ IIM,1.5lakhs/pm, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9047192999

Kongu Vellala Gounder, 29/165cms, MBBS, MD-Pharmacology, Senior Resident Medical college, Chennai. Rs.90,000/-pm. Seeks Suitable Qualified Groom,29-34yrs. Ct: 95511 44484

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CT 9443244060

Hindu AD, 28/165cm, M.D. Anesthesia well settled in Chennai Seeks Doctor Bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 94442 18149 E-mail:- mrrson@gmail.com

MALAYALAM

SEEKING ALLIANCE for Nair boy, 39, Uthram, Ph.D, Assistant Professor at a UK University, never married Contact - email id: krishnakumarak@yahoo.com or rajeswarikrishnan2002@gmail.com

HINDU EZHAVA Man, Govt. Plus Two Teacher, Gazetted Officer, 51, Chathayam, Trivandrum 9447005305

NRI

NAIDU 28/180,POORATATHI, BTech, MS Working as Research Engr ,PR of Sweden, Wanted Bride Call 9566682220.

PUNJABI

HINDU NAI Boy 5ft 7inch, 1992, B.Tech, handsome package from well settled nuclear family with own house seeks well qualified, beautiful girl. Ph: 9319928449

TAMIL

CSI/ Christian 27yrs / 165cms, MBA, Working, 3.7LPA, Chennai seeks suitable Bride.Ct: 9677281464/9840139960

MUSLIM,40 Ph.D.,M.Sc (yoga) Seeks Bride, Immediate Marriage. No Demand. Ct: 9342585072

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TAMIL

HINDU VALLUVAN 33/167 BE MBA SWE/ Bank Swathi Chennai, seeks suitable groom, Caste No Bar. Ct: 9444053003

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MS(USA) Chemical Engineer, Saliya 34/165 seeks USA based brides, caste no bar. 9989305086

TAMIL

ALLIANCE INVITED from Muslim Widow or Divorcy without Child around Age 40–-45 for Muslim Widower by Businessman Age 57 Income 50,000 permonth having Son Age 16 Ct: 9443011354

TAMIL MUSLIM 29yrs/176cm handsome SW Engr.in USA– MS– CS (Houston–USA) well settled, Educated Family in Chennai, seeks suitable bride–Fair, Tall (5'4"–5'9"), age(24–27yrs), working / Studying in USA or willing move to USA from a decent, Educated, Tamil Muslim Family. Ct: Whatsapp 9444149649 with biodata & Photo.

TAMIL RC, 29yrs, 180 cm, B.E., M.S., working in Sweden. Seeking suitable Alliance from Qualified Working Professional with similar Background. Ct: 9923884686

RC CHRISTIAN, 41yrs/170, B.E Software Engineer, Chennai, never married, caste no bar, CT– 9500188067

5FT 7INCH 36, BE. Bits, Ex Sr. Associate IT, now Business, Chennai, affluent family, F Pillai M Iyer, doctors, Veg. Contact 9442026869

SOZHIYA Vellalar 35 MCA working in IDFC First Bank Branch Manager seeks suitable Bride. Mudaliar also preferd. Ct:9790596388, 9994159877.

TAMIL

Pillai/ Mudaliar 35yrs, Hastham, MCA Fair, well settled Chennai seeks 37-40 Prof.Quaf working Groom.8220757159

Adi Dravida/SC Girl 29/175cm, MBA, Good Looking, Well Settled Family seeks sutiable Groom Ct: 7904233514

YADHAVA,Aswini, 26/170cm, B.Tech working in Canara Bank as Officer seeks suitable Groom fromTN, Tamil / Telugu/Subsect no bar.Ct: 9952949685

Hindu Adidravida Hastham 28/156cm BE MNC16L Pa seeks suitable alliance from Govt, PSU, IT. Ct: 94441 55781

HINDU MUDALIAR Super Speciality Doctor 34 seek Doctor/ Industrialist groom between 34 & 37 CNB 9884202884

TELUGU

CHRISTIAN (CNB) 34Y/155CM V.Fair / M.B.B.S, M.D, DM (Neuro), Own pracitce Govt Job. wanted Doctor Grooms Ms, Mch DM only. 9248494810

KAMMA 40 M.Sc Psychology good looking affluent seeks well settled handsome qualified groom. Subsect no bar. 9444410207/ tvm1945@gmail.com

NAIDU ELITE 25/165, Fair, Beautiful, B.Pharm, Industrialist Daughter, 50Cr, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

URDU

SUNNI MUSLIM Slim, Fair Good Looking, Orthodox, B.Tech, I.T 23yrs 5.4 Ft SW Developer in Accenture Seeks Well Educated Family. 9042581806

TAMIL

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR, 28, ML, practising Lawyer in Chennai High Court, seeks suitable working bride from well settled decent family. 9840449914

TAMIL MUSLIM, BE, MBA, SWE, 30/180 Working in MNC, Chennai seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 9444008160

BRIDE WANTED Rich Mudaliyar, 31yrs, M. Arch, Elite Business Family. Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

ELITE MUDALIYAR 30yrs B.Tech, MS (US) Working in US, Seeks Elite Family Background 9176718886/ 8939691888

BRIDE WANTED Rich Naidu, 32yrs, BE, MS(US), Working in US, Elite Family Background 9962791888/ 8939691888

HINDU NADAR 30/172, BE, IRS, 600000, USA, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct:K.A Raman Nadar 9380791999/ 9047192999

HINDU SC AD, 37/ BE/ PGD HRM/ Director– L&D, Sftwr Co., Chennai, Unmarried Mob: 7824035052

NAIDU CASTE no bar – 29Y. B.E , M.B.A 15L P.Y Suitable Fair Bride Normal Family.Any district : 7358638363

MUDALIYAR, 26YRS, 178cm, V.Fair, Handsome, Thiruvonam, No Dosham, B.E. (Civil), Sr.Design Engr., L& T– Chennai, seeks suitable Bride, Subsect no bar. Ct: 9444398256/ 8754468741

SENGUNTHAR, 38/165, Widower, NRI. 65 Lacs, B.E. 2 Kids live together. Caste, Education, Wealth No expectations. Looking for unmarried family oriented girl. 7904495268

SAIVA VELLALA Mudaliar, 33/172, B.E (Civil)., MBA., Fair, Handsome, Unmarried, settled in Australia seeks well educated, Beautiful Bride willing to settle and work in Australia. Whatsapp: 00919025596171, sinduos@yahoo.in

HINDU MUDALIAR Groom, 1st Marriage, 45, 5ft 7inch, BE – ECE, Bangalore. 9886493369, rajdmohan@outlook.com

VELLALAR /SUBSECTS 27 years B.com BL.14Lacs MNC Chennai Minimum Graduate Veg/Non Veg Contact:7358200722

40 YRS, IT Professional, Australian Citizenship. Seeks Bride MBBS Doctor, Willing to Settle in Australia, Caste No Bar, Divorcee also Pref. without Child. Age 35 to 40yrs. Ct: 98844 83605

MUDALIAR/ PILLAI, DOB:29.05.93/ 183cm, BE,MS(USA) N.Veg,Working inUSA,Seeks suitable Bride (25–28yr)Studying/Working in USA,Mother:9003713942

ELITE MUDALIYAR, 33yrs, BE, MBA, Elite Business Family, Own IT Company in Chennai. 9710093999/ 8939691888

PILLAI, 42/172, BA, Fair, Handsome, Working Media, 7L p.a. Seeks Suitable Educated, Fair Bride 8870099659

HINDU NADAR–29Y, B.Tech, M.S./USA / 20 Lakhs/P.M, Father Bank. Seeks want to go to USA. Ct: 7397776595

TAMIL

SC 33/172 Doctor fair Vellore seeks doctor girl to look hospital own, caste no bar, Native North T.N 9442477699, Email: jsdco2012@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN NADAR, Doctor, Divorcee 35yrs/178cm, MBBS, Dip in Cardiology better earning lives in Nagercoil seeks qualified/ Divorced Bride. 9003983230

REMARRIAGE SENGUNTHAR 39 / 165 BE, SWE, MNC Poosam, Seeking Good Looking Girl 155cm Educated. 9443943012

M.TECH 39YRS, Asst. Prof in deemed University,Seeks Alliance from a Graduate bride.Cast no bar. 9444388976

CHETTIYAR, 29YRS, BE, 2Lakhs per month, IT Engineer.Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 9710093999/ 8939691888

SOZHIA Vellalar Only son 25/174 cm SWE 12Lac p.a,Fair Good Looking Affluent family seeks Bride.99655-38166.

GAVARA NAIDU, 39/180, Uthiradam, Maharam,B.E.,M.S(Engg.), Chief Engr. MNC Chennai, 15L PA, First marriage seeks Naidu Bride. Ct: 9487272897

✔ HINDU NADAR, Tamil boy, 28 Yrs., 174cm/65kg, wheatish brown, clean habits, B.E, MBA(USA), currently working in USA, Will relocate to India in few years. Seeks educated, smart girl. Age 23–27. Call/WhatsApp 9940353520.

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA ,Age 32, Uthiram ,BE – 2 Lakhs/ month Working @ Hyderabad, Caste No Bar 9840306926

MUDALIYAR/ PILLAI 31/ 172, B.Tech, MBA, Fair, Swathi Looking for Bride Good looking Qualified working girl, Chennai. Ct: 7200150474

BRIDE WANTED, SC(AD), 31yrs, ME, Working in MNC, 2.5L/pm,Well Educated Background. 9710093999/ 8939691888

Mudaliar 27/177, Handsome, BE, Mgr, MNC, 20 Lakhs PA, Chennai, Affluent family, CNB. 9043991629 9043987029

NAIDU 43 BE/MBA Divorce Software Unmaried/Divorce Widow Bride without child BC,MBC 9841520881/ 9841402164

ALLIANCE INVITED for Tamil Brahmin Boy, 30, Srivatsa Gothram, Working in US,SFO from Professionally Qualified Girls. CT: sk2023uma@gmail.com , Whatsapp: +919840567668.

IYER VADAMAL, Kasyapa Poorattathi 44yrs / 161cm, M.Sc, Working in MNC Chennai, 18L P.A, seeks Educated Employed/Un Employed Bride. subsect No Bar. Ct:9943306563/044-29503379

Soliza Valalar Fair 34/168 BE, MSc Applied Behaviour Analyst Corporate Company Bangalore seeking Fair Girl from Good Family. Raghu Dosa Makara Rasi, Utthradam, Parikara Chevvai 8807544907. caste no bar.

BE, MS PhD (IITM), Star-Swathi, 30 yrs, Fair, 174cm, MNC B'lore, seek B'ful PQB, Pillai/Mudaliar, 9840161742

MUSLIM BOY 28/178 Cm, BE(ECE), MS (USA), Proj mngr MNC Chennai, 28L P/A, well to do family. 9445556810

TAMIL

✔ Mudhaliyar B.Tech, 34/180, Fair, Handsome, MNC 30 Lakhs p.a Chennai, Clean Habits, separated in short period of Marriage seeks Good looking Educated Girl from Good Family, caste no bar. send details to Parents - sshrinathp88@gmail.com

TELUGU

BALIJA 28/ 176cms /Kiruthigai/ BE good salary, IT sector, Chennai. Seeks bride. Ct 9677140810.

BALIJA 29/180 cms, Magam, Simma Raasi /BE/ M.S (Ger) working in Germany 51Lpa. Financially Sound. Seeks Suitable Qualified Bride–Sub Sects No Bar. Ct: 9442623203 / 9442838203

WANTED BRIDE, Caste no bar/ Nadar / M.Sc. / C.Govt / PGT / 80000 pm / 39yrs / 170 Ph: 9494003635

KAMMA 43 BE/MBA business with Public Sector handsome affluent seeks good looking qualified bride. Sect no bar. 9444410207/ tvm1945@gmail.com

KAMBALATHU NAICKER Widower Age 50 Above Upper Middle Class Family Looking for Suitable Brides No Issues Age 40 to 45yrs. Telugu Naidu or Any caste. 6369477159.

SC HINDU: BE, MS (USA) / 183CM / 3OY/ H1BI140 130K. Wanted USA Brides only. 8106501199.

BRAHMIN (TELUGU), 46 (divorce with issues, kids are with the mother) 5'10" Good Looking / MBA, B.E, Software / Hyd, settled, Good Family Seeks Suitable 1st Marriage Brahmin Bride (between 33–38 yrs), Job not necessary, any degree education, Call; 9515349877

Kamavar Naidu, 26yr/175cm, Magam, BE(CSE) Working in Bangalore,12LPA Upper middle class.Chennai seeks suitable Bride. 9003887956/ 9944900410

Fair Handsome Teetoller affluent Groom wkg as Asst. Professor & Lawyer Dec 1990/5'8.Parents Intercaste. Seeks Beautiful and Professional life partner, No bars. Ph: 9885472043. Cont: advocatevaishnav @gmail.com

URDU

MUSLIM HANAFI, TCS-software consultant, 84k, 31/180 cm seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9710920266.

SMU Chennai Based, 32/168cm, B.E. MBA, well settled family seeks Educated Bride for their son. Ct: 8122989086

MUSLIM BOY 28/178 Cm, BE(ECE), MS (USA), Proj mngr MNC Chennai, 28L P/A, well to do family. 9445556810

MARRIAGE BUREAU

US UK Canada All Caste Religion 1st Marriage,Remarriage. Ct:8248757840

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GENERAL

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL, PALAKKAD

O.P.M.V.138/2021

Chithra and others - Petitioner

Vs

Balakrishnan,
S/o.Murugayya, No.730 MA, 3rd Block, Oppanakkara Street, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. - 4th Respondent

Please take notice that the above claim petition stands posted on 30.11.2023. If you fail to attend the court on the same date at 11 A.M you will be set exparte.

Dated 6th day of November 2023

(Abhilash.N, Advocate, Thenkurissi, Palakkad

BEFORE THE MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL, PALAKKAD

O.P.M.V.1048/2013 I.A.1930/2022

Anthonisami - Petitioner

Vs

Lakshmanan,
S/o.Arumugam, 5th, 6th Street, Velliankadu South, Tirupur Tamil Nadu. - 1st Respondent

Please take notice that the above claim petition stands posted on 01.12.2023. If you fail to attend the court on the same date at 11 A.M you will be set exparte.

Dated 6th day of November 2023.

(Abhilash.N, Advocate, Thenkurissi, Palakkad

WATER PROOFING

BUILDING SOLUTIONS: waterproofing roof, Tank, Skylight, Bathroom, House painting, Fabrication, Carpentry, Epoxy coating. Macbond. 9886297762

Flower prices in local markets remain high despite wholesale rates crashing

'There has been a glut of flowers ever since Gowri-Ganesha festival and this has led to a steep crash in the wholesale prices'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

On the eve of Deepavali festivities, even as the prices of flowers crashed in the wholesale markets of the city, they continued to remain moderately high in the local markets in residential pockets of the city.

G.M. Divakar, president of the K.R. Market Flower Merchants' Association, said there has been a glut of flowers in the market ever since the Gowri-Ganesha festival and this has led to a steep crash in the prices.

"Chrysanthemum is being sold at as low as ₹20-₹30 a kg, while there is some demand for marigolds, used mostly by commercial establishments during Deepavali. Marigold is being sold at around ₹70 a kg. Two days ago, the price of chrysanthemum had come down to as low as ₹10 a kg. The traders are devastated," he said.

Festival staples: Flowers and fruits being sold at Gandhi Bazaar in Bengaluru on the eve of Deepavali. BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

However, a visit to any local market in the city does not reflect the same. Many retail vendors have hiked prices, even compared to a week ago, making a windfall in the process. A vendor in the HAL Market, Das, said it was only during festivals that they make some money, as there is demand and people do buy whatever the price. Narayanaswamy, a flower seller at the market, said: "We see some profit during festivals. I usually make around ₹10,000 a month but right now I will make close to ₹50,000".

Chrysanthemum, available in K.R. Market for ₹20-₹30 a kg, was being sold at anywhere between ₹80 and ₹200 in retail markets on Saturday evening. Marigolds, which costs around ₹70 a kg in K. R. Market, was being sold at ₹200 in retail markets.

However, the prices of fruits, another staple during the festival season, have seen a marginal increase over the past week even at wholesale markets. Yelakki bananas, which were being sold at ₹90 a kg, now cost around ₹120-₹130 and the price of oranges has gone up from ₹80 to over ₹100 a kg now. The price of custard apples has also shot up to ₹140 a kg.

"During festivals, it's a must to buy flowers and fruits so I do not mind paying more, although, usually I try to buy most of the items a week before since they are significantly cheaper. Most of the shopping I do now is for last-minute needs," said Revathy M., a shopper and resident of Jeevan Bima Nagar.

Idols, sweets, jewellery popular among Deepavali gifts this year

Cheryl Jasline
BENGALURU

From the usual sweets and dry fruits to handicrafts and bags with antique looks, Bengalureans are engaged in buying a variety of gifts for their friends and family this Deepavali season.

The festive season has brought alive the bustling markets of the city, with shoppers thronging every store. Jayanagar 4th Block shopping complex is one of the many areas where people are thronging. "Colourful diyas, clay diyas, and Ganesha and Lakshmi clay idols are what customers typically from the northern part of India find unique, especially during this season," said Veena at one of the shops in the complex. She said that most of the items currently in demand are colourful rangoli stickers with the Deepavali wishes inscribed on them. "Jayanagar 4th Block is the one place where I think you can literally find everything, so you can come and shop at one go," said Jyoti Raman, a shopper in the area.

Commercial Street decked up for Deepavali. SUDHAKARA JAIN

The Handicrafts Museum located on Commercial Street is another place where people typically buy gifts and trinkets for their loved ones. "People prefer gifts within a budget of ₹500. We got a lot of orders for elephant figures, candle stands, colourful boxes, and stone items," said a salesperson.

At Safina Plaza in Shivajinagar, bags with antique looks were in great demand. Imran, the owner of the shop Jewellery Bazaar, said, "I don't think you can find these bags anywhere else. We manufacture these bags. They are eye-catchers; these are something you can either wear for parties or functions to highlight your look or gift others, especially during Deepavali," he said. Their store has other jewellery items such as metal bracelets, earrings, and neckpieces which were also being bought by customers for gifting purposes. The gift shops in the city are also thriving with bulk orders and customers buying gift boxes.

M. Suresh, the manager of K.C. Das store on Church Street, said, "People prefer to buy assorted sweets which have a longer shelf-life, something like ladoos or ghee-based sweets."

Apart from shopping at markets, many have been buying Deepavali gifts online. Sustainable gift options such as plants, handmade articles, and clay articles have been in demand, some sellers reported.

DC indiscriminately granted licences to allow cracker storage beyond 600 kg: HC

A file photo of a firecracker stall in Bengaluru.

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

'Deputy Commissioners will be held responsible for accidents that occur due to illegal grant of licences to store firecrackers'

It is a matter of surprise as to how the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Bengaluru Urban district granted licences left, right, and centre when he, in the capacity as the District Magistrate, had no power under the law to grant licences to store and sell firecrackers/sparklers beyond 600 kg, the High Court of Karnataka has said.

The court made it clear that the DCs would be held accountable for any accident in future if they failed to restrain from granting licences beyond 600 kg of storage and selling of firecrackers/sparklers.

'Has no power'

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while noticing that the DC had granted a large number of permissions for the storage and sale of fireworks/crackers/sparkles up to 1,000 kg even though the District Magistrates have no power under the provisions of the Explosives Rules, 2008, to grant licence to store and sell such items beyond 600 kg.

It is only the Controller of Explosives who has the power to grant licences for storage of selling crackers beyond 600 kg, the court noted.

The court passed order on a petition filed by Kalavathi, who had questioned the DC's October 25, 2023, order of cancelling a licence, granted earlier and having validity till 2028, following the fire accident at a cracker godown on October 7.

Following this petition, the court directed the Deputy Controller of Explosives to conduct an inspection of the petitioner's licence area and submit a report and it was revealed that the licence granted was illegal as it permitted storing up to 1,000 kg.

On perusing the report, the court said that what had emerged from the illegal grant of licence by the DC is that a place, which can store only 600 kg of firecrackers, is now permitted to store 1,000 kg. "It is trite that 'a spark neglected can burn the house'. Therefore, it is high time that caution was exercised by the State in grant of indiscriminate licences," the court observed.

The court noted that it was not the fault of the petitioner as she had merely applied for the licence and it was the error committed by the DC in granting the licence to store more quantity. The court directed the DC to unlock the premises of the petitioner for carrying out her licenced business activities but with a restriction for storing only up to 600 kg of firecrackers and after complying with other safety measures.

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Far from sunny: A setting sun is almost lost in the smoke emanating from the fields as a farmer burns stubble in Ambala, Haryana. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Sitting ducks: A traffic policemen wears mask while on duty during smoggy weather in New Delhi. R.V. MOORTHY

Smoked out: An autorickshaw driver takes cover during a fumigation drive in Jangpura, New Delhi. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Hard to see: Vehicles stuck in a traffic jam on the Delhi-Gurugram Expressway amid low visibility due to smog during a winter morning, in Gurugram. PTI

BBMP has no disaster management plan despite calamities claiming lives in city

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Act, 2020, mandates formulation of such a plan; official says it will be prepared at the zonal level first

Shreyas H.S. .
BENGALURU

Despite the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike Act, 2020, mandating the formulation of a disaster management plan (DMP), the civic body has none so far, even as the city has been reeling under multiple fire accidents, floods, and other disasters.

Section 284 (3) of the BBMP Act states that the corporation should prepare a 'Fire hazard response and mitigation plan' every year as prescribed by the State government and publish the plan in the official gazette. An expert said this is broadly termed as a DMP.

A file photo of the flooded Outer Ring Road in Bengaluru following heavy rain.

The city in the last two months witnessed as many as four major fire incidents, killing at least 18 people in all, while multiple instances of flooding have been causing inconvenience to the public. The BBMP's actions for mitigating such incidents appear to be *ad hoc* and temporary in nature rather than permanent. On the other hand, the BBMP has no dedicated disaster management cell despite an order being passed in 2020 by the then Chief Commissioner to set up ward-level disaster management cells.

In October 2022, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath had said they would be appointing nine disaster management officers, one for the head office and eight at the zonal level, to coordinate with BBMP officials on disaster management. This has not been done to date.

> A disaster management plan is crucial to mitigate floods, fires, and other tragedies... In the absence of it, such events are bound to recur.
>
> **RAGHU B.V.,**
> a disaster management expert

Nodal officer

BBMP Special Commissioner (Projects) K.V. Thrilok Chandra, who has been appointed as nodal officer for Disaster Management, said the civic body invited applications for the appointment of 10 staffers in August 2023 and soon recruitment process would be completed. Two officers would be appointed for the head office.

Raghu B.V., a disaster management expert, said a DMP is crucial to mitigate floods, fires, and other tragedies such as the collapse of old and under-construction buildings. In the absence of a DMP, such events are bound to recur. Under the DMP the BBMP should undertake a high-risk vulnerability assessment of every block coming under the jurisdiction of the civic body. It is this assessment – done every year – which holds the key to preventing tragedies. Mr. Raghu said the BBMP did not bother to fill the disaster management coordinator position that became vacant in 2020. In the absence of trained disaster management officials, the DMP cannot be prepared, he added.

Zonal officers named

The BBMP has now appointed eight zonal officers and they should coordinate with disaster management officials to draft a DMP at the zonal level. Mr. Trilok Chandra said in the course of time, the DMP would be prepared at the zonal level and soon the BBMP DMP would be readied. "The DMP for Mahadevapura has already been prepared," he said.

Eight arrested for killing rowdy sheeter

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rivalry between the prime accused and the victim was the motive for the murder, say police

The Puttenahalli police have arrested eight persons, including the prime accused Vinay, in a case pertaining to the killing of 34-year-old rowdy sheeter. Sahadev was hacked to death by bike-borne assailants on November 8 near a bakery.

According to the police, the motive for the murder was rivalry between Vinay, 30, and Sahadev. During the Ganesha festival, Sahadev had assaulted Vinay and his brother over the issue of immersion of a Ganesha idol. This infuriated Vinay, the police said.

On November 8, Vinay and others came on bikes in the morning hours and attacked Sahadev with a machete and wooden log. Sahadev, who sustained grievous injuries, succumbed later. Sahadev had a murder case registered against him about nine years ago.

The police said while some of the assailants were arrested on the day of the murder, the rest were held two days later. The police said the names of the other accused cannot be revealed at this juncture as the investigation was under way.

Serum samples from Chickballapur district test negative for Zika virus

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The serum samples of three fever cases and 24 pregnant women from five villages in the containment zone in Chickballapur district that were sent to NIV, Pune, for Zika testing, have tested negative.

After a mosquito pool at Thalakayalbetta village of the district was found to be positive for Zika, the State Health Department that was closely monitoring the situation sent serum samples of 24 pregnant women and three fever cases for tests. Mosquito samples collected from Thalakayalbetta village in the jurisdiction of Dibburahalli Primary Health Centre (PHC) during routine surveillance were found to be carrying the Zika virus in the last week of October. As many as 888 houses with a population of 4,282 in the containment zone were under intense surveillance.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. told *The Hindu* on Sunday that "the serum samples of three fever cases and 24 pregnant women have tested negative for Zika virus by RTPCR at NIV, Pune."

Another serum sample of a suspected Zika-positive patient, who was admitted to Suguna Hospital in Bengaluru, has also tested negative. The sample had been sent to NIV, Pune, for confirmation, he said.

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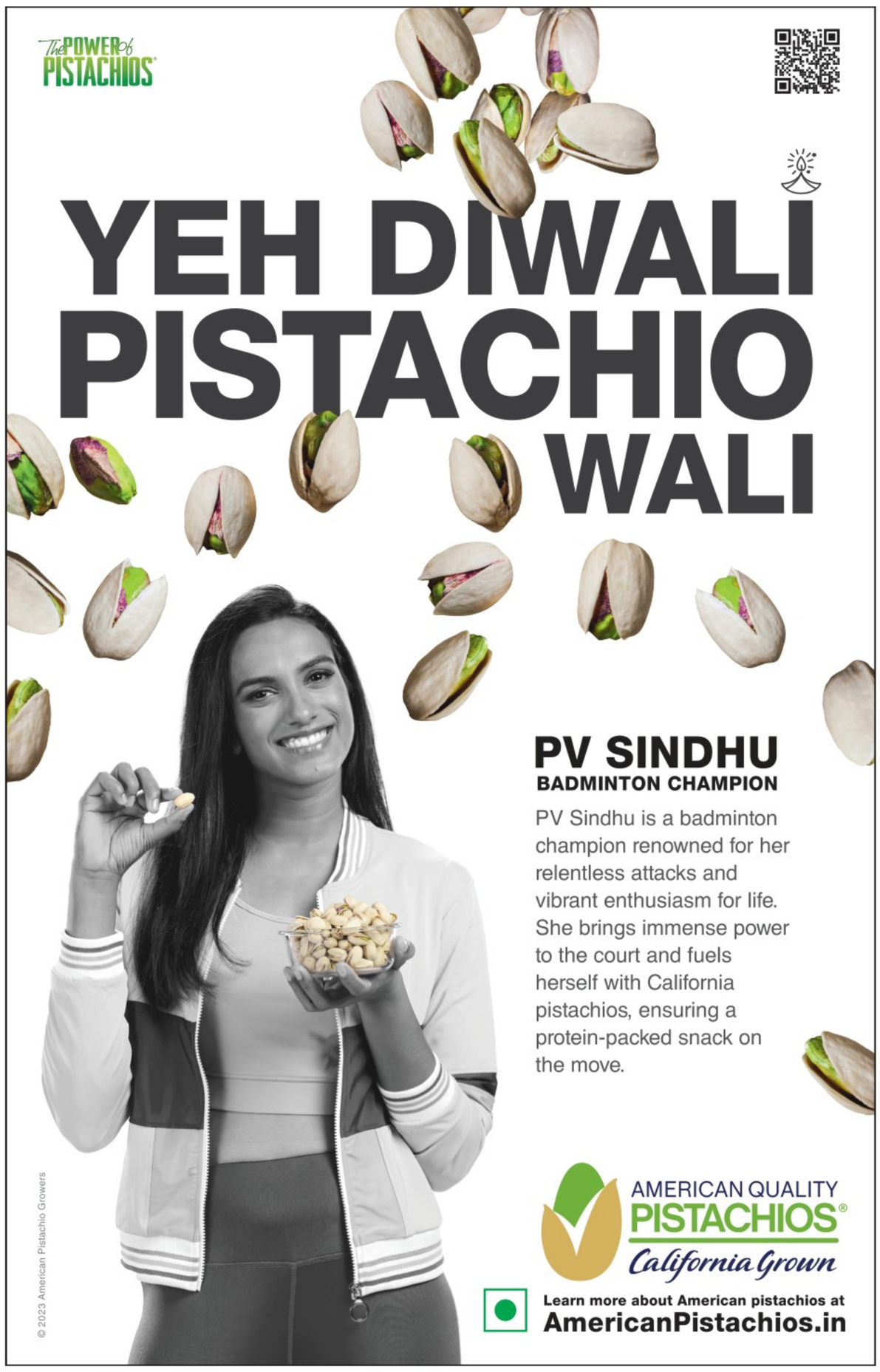
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IIITB develops pipeline for a 'human' engagement with bots

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

While a teacher can always infer if a student is paying attention in the classroom, would an edutech bot know if the lesson on screen is holding his/her attention? The day may not be too far when the distinguishing line between these two kinds of interactions would blur.

Researchers at the International Institute of Informational Technology Bangalore (IIITB) have developed a ready-to-use interpretable pipeline which uses machine learning and psychology for modelling engagement in human-robot interactions. Along with the prediction of engagement, the pipeline can provide deeper insights into human personality, attitudes, and emotions and thereby improve the way the robot interacts with the human user.

Sense of emotions

"The robotic interaction systems we have now do not take into account the human feelings, emotions and attitudes at a particular moment whereas in human interactions, we take these factors into account. We want assistive robots, chatbots, and other automated systems to also have a sense of human emotions," Shrisha Rao, professor at IIIT Bangalore, and senior researcher on the study, told *The Hindu*.

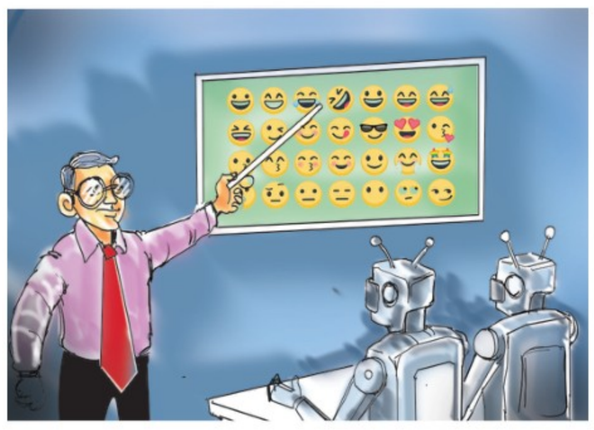

ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

While interactive robots are expected to adapt to each individual's needs when dealing with diverse engagement levels among various people in a crowd, the accurate measurement of each person's engagement based on their visual and physiological cues is the initial challenge. This is where the pipelines that can deduce these engagement levels come into picture.

The study which has been published in the PLOS One Journal of the Public Library Of Science has been authored by Soham Joshi and Arpitha Malavalli, graduate students in IIITB, under the supervision of Mr. Rao.

Along with the prediction of engagement, the pipeline can provide deeper insights into human personality, attitudes and emotions

The Big Five personality traits (extroversion, agreeableness, openness, conscientiousness, and neuroticism), the Interpersonal Circumplex (IPC), and the Triandis Theory of Interpersonal Behavior have been incorporated into the pipeline for the prediction of engagement.

"Many previous methods for predicting engaging behaviour rely on blindly training deep neural networks to understand the link between multimodal cues and engagement levels. However, this approach differs significantly from how humans assess engagement in their interaction. Our goal is to create a prediction pipeline in human-robot interactions that mimic this human-like assessment of engagement," said Mr. Joshi.

Explaining the various stages of the pipeline, Mr. Joshi said, "We will use incoming multimodal cues like head movements, hand gestures, eye movements, and physiological features to predict the Big Five Personality traits of the interacting human. The personality predictions are then projected on IPC, and the correlation values between human behaviour and attitude and emotion are used to get inferences about the engaging behaviour displayed by a human interacting with a robot."

Applications

This pipeline can have a wide range of applications in various domains such as online learning platforms, assistive robotics, and intelligent conversational agents. While the hardware required for the application could vary across domains, going forward the researchers would like to partner with domains to see if products or solutions can be developed with the pipeline. They would also like to focus on shrinking the bulky data set that is required in the back end.

Elaborating on the applications, Mr. Rao said, "For instance, the inference of lower engagement in customers using chatbots may indicate a need for a change in the chatbots interacting style to cater to humans of different attitudes and emotions. In online learning, the pipeline can be used to predict low engagement levels among students and introduce gamification as a way to incentivise them."

BMTC buses broke down 1,478 times this year, shows traffic police data

Such incidents cause inconvenience to commuters and often lead to traffic snarls; BMTC officials say a bus stopping on roads is counted as a breakdown only if it fails to run even after an hour

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

In a city with over 1.2 crore vehicles, breakdowns adding to traffic woes are only expected. However, the top spot in the list of vehicles which have broken down this year goes to Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) buses with 1,478 instances, data from Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) revealed.

Every month, the number of BMTC buses which breakdown is anywhere between 120 and 170, the traffic police said. The officials reported that at least four to five buses break down every day on the roads, causing traffic snarls.

"As a regular commuter of BMTC buses, at least once every week I see buses breaking down. They make us board a different bus which travels in the route. Sometimes we have to wait for 5 to 10 minutes for another bus to come. This disrupts our timelines, especially since I take the bus to travel to my workplace," said Suparna Shankar, who regularly travels from Yelahanka New Town to Cauvery Bhavan.

Vehicles that have broken down in 2023 (until October)

Type of vehicle	Number of instances
BMTC bus	1,478
KSRTC bus	395
Private bus	327
Heavy goods vehicle	716
Large goods vehicle	695
LMV/car	713
Others	334
Total	4,658

Source – Bengaluru Traffic Police

On arterial roads

Apart from causing inconvenience to the commuters, these breakdowns also often lead to traffic snarls. "These numbers are just from arterial roads, and we have not even considered side roads. When a bus breaks down an entire carriageway gets blocked. This increases the traffic congestion by 30% on a three-lane road and by 50% on a two-lane road," M.N. Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Bengaluru, told *The Hindu*. "As most of these buses have pneumatic brakes, we cannot even push them when the brakes are jammed. The technicians from the BMTC have to come and repair them," he added.

However, BMTC officials said a bus stopping on roads is counted as a breakdown only if it fails to run even after an hour. "Like with any other vehicles, our buses also sometimes face minor issues on the road. They are usually resolved within an hour. But when it comes to actual breakdowns, the incidents are less than 0.5%. Unlike private vehicles, we ensure that our buses are scrapped after 1 lakh kilometres and no bus leaves the depot without maintenance every night," said a public relations officer from BMTC.

Including the BMTC buses, a total of 4,658 vehicles have broken down this year, according to the data from BTP. A total of 395 Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) buses, 327 private buses, and 713 light motor vehicles (LMV) and cars are among the vehicles which have broken down.

"Every day, around 15-20 vehicles break down in the city. Especially, the stretch between Hebbal and Tin Factory is more prone to breakdowns. It is not clear if there is some gradient issue on the road or any other problem," Mr. Anucheth said.

BMTC forgery scam: Minister plans to hand over investigation to CCB

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) management is planning to seek a Central Crime Branch (CCB) probe into the case where former BMTC officials allegedly forged the signatures of senior officers to tamper with documents and award contracts and tenders to undeserving applicants.

The forgery case which happened between March 2020 and September 2023 has caused a financial loss of ₹17 crore to the corporation.

"I have already conducted a meeting with senior officials to suggest giving this case to the CCB for an investigation and have directed officials to prepare the details of the case and the documents needed to transfer it. We will decide about giving this case to the CCB in the board meeting soon," said Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

According to BMTC officials, the accused had forged the signatures of former BMTC Managing Director C. Shikha and Director of Security and Vigilance Wing K. Arun. Earlier, the Wilson Garden police arrested six officials in the case.

"There are 15 to 16 cases on this and officials have started studying all the related cases. An agency like the CCB can conduct a proper investigation," Mr. Reddy added.

The Assistant Security and Vigilance Officer of the BMTC conducted a probe and found that the accused were involved in large-scale irregularities and filed a complaint. The probe revealed that the accused had taken bribes from the beneficiaries through UPI and even helped them waive dues by forging the letterhead and signatures of the senior BMTC officials.

Two killed in road accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Two people were killed when two bikes collided at Siddanahosahalli near Madanayakanahalli in the wee hours of Saturday. The deceased were identified as Rajesh, 45, of Madanayakanahalli and Dhanraj, 24, of Heggadadevanapura, according to the Madanayakanahalli traffic police.

Local people admitted Rajesh, Dhanraj, and Shankar, who was riding pillion with Rajesh, to a nearby private hospital. Rajesh and Dhanraj did not respond to the treatment, the police said.

The condition of Shankar, who sustained head injuries, is said to be critical.

Two arrested, 20 stolen motorbikes recovered

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Accused were wanted in at least 11 cases; they used to steal bikes parked outside houses, say police

The Byatarayanapura police have arrested two people and recovered 20 stolen motorbikes, together worth ₹11.93 lakh.

The two were wanted in at least 11 bike theft cases registered in police stations including those at Wilson Garden, Tavarekere, Koramangala, and Jayanagar.

The police identified the accused as Saddam Hussain and Wasim Akram. While Hussain is a resident of Chandra Layout, Akram was living at Hale Guddadahalli, off Mysuru Road.

According to the police, the duo was involved in bike thefts for the last eight months. They used to steal bikes parked outside houses in residential areas.

The police are also investigating whether more people are involved with the two accused.

Krishi Mela to be held from Nov. 17 to 20

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, is organising Krishi Mela - 2023 from November 17 to 20 on the Gandhi Krishi Vignana Kendra (GKVK) campus.

According to a press release, the Krishi Mela will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on November 17. During the inaugural ceremony, State-level farmer and farm woman award will be presented.

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This notice is issued on behalf of our client **Mrs.Nagu.M, W/o. Mr.Shankar.B**, to bring to the notice of the general public that the original Confirmation deed dated 30/08/2014 registered as document No.2170/2014-15 in Book-1, stored in C.D No.GAND203 registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Gandhinagar is lost.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they shall return the same or contact the undersigned in writing within **7 days** from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

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1173-PR/23

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Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, NOV. 12
RISE 06:17 SET 17:51
RISE 05:10 SET 17:03

MONDAY, NOV. 13
RISE 06:17 SET 17:51
RISE 06:02 SET 17:47

TUESDAY, NOV. 14
RISE 06:17 SET 17:50
RISE 06:57 SET 18:35

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	24
Mysuru	30	21
Bengaluru	28	20

Bengaluru Today
29°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C A dry weather to prevail. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant.

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THE HINDU
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At charity programme in city, Sunil Gavaskar raises awareness about congenital heart defects

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

"To look at the faces of parents of children with congenital heart defects changing from nervousness and fear to relief and then joy is worth more than scoring a double century," said former cricketer Sunil Gavaskar on Saturday at a charity dinner hosted by Rotary Club of Bangalore, Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevini Hospitals, and Heart to Heart Foundation in Bengaluru.

The charity dinner was hosted to enable free paediatric heart surgeries at Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevini Hospitals.

> To look at the faces of parents of children with congenital heart defects changing from nervousness and fear to relief and then joy is worth more than scoring a double century.
> **SUNIL GAVASKAR,** former cricketer

Three lakh cases a year

"In India, more than 3,00,000 children are born with congenital heart defects annually. Apart from being a devotee of Satya Sai Baba, the fact that these surgeries would give a second chance to the children who could go on to live very productive lives until 70 to 80 years got me involved in this," said Mr. Gavaskar, who also chairs the Heart to Heart Foundation, which is dedicated to saving the lives of children born with congenital heart defects.

He said that the cause of "second chance" resonated with him as in his cricketing career, the times his catch was dropped in various matches gave him a second cricketing life. "My first innings was as a cricketer, second was as a part-time administrator and commentator. This is my third innings and it is the most fulfilling of them all."

He added that along with fundraising, the foundation and Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevini Hospitals were also working on raising awareness about the disease.

Memorabilia auctioned

The Rotary Club of Bangalore, which has already taken up 100 free heart surgeries under its 'Breadwinner' initiative, also auctioned some memorabilia of Mr. Gavaskar, including 16 of his pictures from *The Hindu* archives, during the charity dinner.

When asked about his association with *The Hindu*, Mr. Gavaskar said, "My association goes back almost 50 years. Back then, *The Hindu* had a magazine called *Sports and Pastime* (now *Sportstar*). We used to regularly get it in our house and read it as it was the only English sports magazine at the time. "

On World Cup hopes

In an interaction with *The Hindu*, Mr. Gavaskar also said that like a billion Indians, he was also praying that Rohit Sharma would join Kapil Dev and Mahendra Singh Dhoni as a World Cup winning captain on November 19.

Former cricketer Sunil Gavaskar at a charity dinner organised by Rotary club of Bangalore, Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevini Hospitals, and Heart to Heart Foundation in Bengaluru on Saturday.
SUDHAKARA JAIN

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M BG-BGE

Will BJP's new State president Vijayendra pose a challenge to Cong. in next year's LS polls?

The question on everyone's mind is if Vijayendra can stop the Cong. juggernaut in State and aid Modi to achieve a hat-trick by winning the 2024 polls; the saffron party is unlikely to flag issues such as corruption, nepotism, and dynasty this time

Nagesh Prabhu
BENGALURU

The appointment of B.Y. Vijayendra, MLA, as the BJP's State president is expected to offer a stiff challenge to the Congress, which is eyeing to win 20 seats in the general elections next year, especially in a context where Karnataka voters have a tendency to vote for different political parties in the Legislative Assembly and Parliamentary elections.

The new president, belonging to the Veerashaiva-Lingayat community, is expected to provide a much-needed morale booster to the BJP cadre, particularly the youth. The dominant community, which felt sidelined after veteran leader B.S. Yediyurappa was asked to step down from the top post, is expected to rally behind his son. The community is said to be jittery over the issue of caste census and perceived denial of prominent executive posts to community officials in the Congress government.

The 48-year-old Vijayendra is credited with organisational skills and the party leaders acknowledge his abilities which helped the party to open its account in the bypolls in K.R. Pet of Mandya, Sira in Tumakuru and Basavakalyana in Bidar during the previous BJP regime.

As the appointment came from the party's high command, the leaders aspiring to become the State unit chief are likely to fall in line.

His age, ability to mobilise financial resources, and the father's backing is expected to provide him much needed cushion to take on the Congress, which is grappling with factionalism.

A Congress functionary told *The Hindu* that the Lingayat community is expected to consolidate behind Mr. Vijayendra. The party had kept its vote percentage intact (36%) in the Assembly polls and an increase in a few percent of votes would help the BJP to secure a good number of seats, if not 25.

B.Y. Vijayendra, who has been appointed BJP State president, visited the residence of Shashidhar, president of booth no. 23 of Gandhinagar ward in Bengaluru, on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Some disgruntlement

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While there were many congratulatory messages and celebrations over B.Y. Vijayendra's appointment as party chief, some simmering discontent was also discernible in some quarters. One BJP leader who obliquely expressed his discontent was former national general secretary C.T. Ravi, a Vokkaliga leader who was seen as an aspirant to the post.

He refused to say much beyond congratulating him, stating that whatever he says is likely to be "misconstrued", though he "had some questions." When pointedly asked if Mr. Vijayendra was the apt person for the post, Mr. Ravi said, "I should not get into that analysis... The party decides who should do what. While there are many who may be eligible, I believe the party has chosen right."

Other leaders, including V. Somanna and Aravind Bellad, refused to comment when asked about the party's choice.

Different narrative

However, narratives of the 2024 poll pitch would be totally different. The BJP is expected to be defensive and not offensive during the run-up to the polls. The saffron party is unlikely to flag issues such as corruption, nepotism and dynasty, which were the major poll plank of Mr. Modi against the Congress in 2019.

A Lingayat leader said Mr. Vijayendra's success depended on his ability to exploit the political tussle for the Chief Minister's post between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar, disappointment among the Congress workers over the delay in the appointment of heads to boards and corporations, "appeasement" towards minority communities and exposure of alleged corruption.

But the question is whether political greenhorn Vijayendra has the wherewithal to retain if not improve over 25 out 28 seats the BJP had won in 2019 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi's popularity was unbeatable. The question on everyone's mind is will the new president stop the Congress juggernaut in Karnataka and help Mr. Modi to achieve a hattrick by winning 2024 polls.

P.S. Jayaramu, retired professor of political science, observes that Mr. Vijayendra has everything at his disposal such as money, cadre and caste. "It is a message to Mr. Vijayendra that if he does not deliver in the Lok Sabha polls, say at least 20 seats, he may be shown the door. Even Mr. Yediyurappa is, in a way, put on notice in the process."

Strengths of Congress

Now, the political scenario is different compared to 2019. The BJP performed poorly in the Assembly polls with just 66 seats while the Congress formed the government with 135 seats.

The more daunting task before Mr. Vijayendra is the popularity of the guarantee schemes implemented by the Congress government under Mr. Siddaramaiah, who is popular among backward classes, and Mr. Shivakuamar, who has a sizable following in the Vokkaliga community.

A political observer said Mr. Vijayendra's maturity will be tested as he has to fight a long battle before the next Assembly polls. His ties with JD (S) and BJP senior leaders as well as the RSS are expected to come under scrutiny.

Amidst caste census row, BJP attempts to stitch a Lingayat-Vokkaliga pact

K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj
BENGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party, smarting from a humiliating Assembly poll defeat in Karnataka, is trying to script a comeback by stitching a Lingayat-Vokkaliga alliance which in the past has proved electorally formidable. The recent alliance with Janata Dal (Secular), with its Vokkaliga vote base, and anointing as party chief B.Y. Vijayendra, son of Lingayat strongman B.S. Yediyurappa, fits this pattern.

This attempt at an alliance between the two land-owning communities, that have dominated the State's politics for decades, is significant given that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, an Ahinda (Kannada acronym for Minorities, OBCs and Dalits combine) leader, is the Chief Minister of the State, and D.K. Shivakumar, a Vokkaliga, is vying for the top post.

Then and now

Whenever the Lingayats and Vokkaligas have consolidated in favour of a party -- like to the Janata Party in the 1980s and to Janata Dal in 1994 -- the party came to power. In 2018 Assembly polls too, the two are said to have consolidated against the then Congress government led by Mr. Siddaramaiah, leading to its defeat.

The attempt now to consolidate the support of these two communities comes amidst chatter about the caste census report, an idea that the Congress has been championing across the country and Mr. Siddaramaiah has said he was committed to accepting it. Both communities and their organisations have been unanimously arguing that the census has "undercounted" them and it should be set aside and a fresh one done.

A file photo of B.Y. Vijayendra with Janata Dal (Secular) State unit president H.D. Kumaraswamy.

"An upper caste (Gowda, Lingayat, Brahmin) consolidation against Ahinda of the Congress, with sections of Ahinda already voting for us, is what seems to be the strategy. This ensured the defeat of Congress in 2018," said a senior BJP party strategist, adding that a lot also depends on how Karnataka government and Congress handles the "explosive" caste census issue in the next six months.

"The Vokkaliga-Lingayat alliance can deliver windfalls in South Karnataka, where there is a considerable Lingayat population too and is also the region from where most fo the firepower of the State government - Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar - come from," a senior BJP leader said.

However, State government may keep all action on the caste-census report in abeyance till after Lok Sabha elections. "The previous Basavaraj Bommailed government tried to meddle with the reservation matrix and it left everyone unhappy, costing the BJP dearly. In the light of this experience, the Congress may skip the caste census issue for now," a senior Congress leader said. "On the contrary, Congress may recommend the inclusion of all sub-castes of Vokkaligas and Veerashaiva-Lingayats in the Central OBC list, a long standing demand of these communities, to the Union government and put the ball back in BJP's court," he added.

Wooing back Lingayats

For now BJP's decision to make Mr. Vijayendra party chief is aimed at wooing the Veerashaiva-Lingayat community. "The community, which forms our strong support base, was upset at how B.S. Yediyurappa was forced to resign. In the 2023 Assembly polls the party suffered considerable dip in votes in Kittur Karnataka, Kalyana Karnataka and Central Karnataka. An alliance with JD(S) was also seen as the party moving away from the Lingayats, which has now been balanced. Given that Lingayats haven't been given any big leadership position in Congress, we hope they return to our fold," a senior BJP leader said.

H.M. Renuka Prasanna, national secretary, All-India Veerashaiva Mahasabha, said that it is too early to say how the community will react. "Mr. Vijayendra's appointment is seen as a compensation to the unceremonious exit of Mr. Yediyurappa and the humiliation meted out to Jagadish Shettar and Laxman Savadi. But Mr. Vijayendra leading the party in an Assembly election and he leading the party in a Parliamentary poll will be perceived differently."

Bluetooth use in exam: CID probe ordered

The Hindu Bureau
KALABURAGI

The State government has ordered a probe by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) into an alleged scam in which candidates at Kalaburagi and Yadgir examination centres used Bluetooth devices for writing the exams conducted by the Karnataka Examinations Authority in October 2023.

R. Hitendra, Additional Director-General of Police (Law and Order), had ordered that the case related to the Bluetooth scam registered under IPC 109, 114, 120 B and other sections should be handed over to the CID for investigation with immediate effect.

In Oct., candidates at Kalaburagi and Yadgir centres used Bluetooth devices for writing exams conducted by KEA

On October 28, the KEA conducted written examinations for the recruitment of vacant posts in various departments including Keonics and Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation.

R.D. Patil, the prime accused in the PSI recruitment scam that broke out last year, had again helped the candidates to write KEA exams last month using Bluetooth devices.

Though the police arrested a few candidates on the examination day, Mr. Patil was on the run for nearly 12 days.

Arrested

On Friday, the Kalaburagi police arrested him at Akkalkot in Maharashtra and brought him to Kalaburagi city. The case details of KEA Bluetooth scam registered in eight police stations across the State will be collected by the CID police and Mr. Patil and other accused will be taken into CID custody for further questioning.

Siddaramaiah inaugurates Yaragol dam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday inaugurated the Yaragol dam, built to ensure supply of water to Kolar, Bangarpet, and Malur taluks of Kolar district.

The dam has been built near Yaragol village in Bangarpet taluk as part of a project worth ₹308.46 crore.

The new dam has been constructed to provide water from Markandeya reservoir to Kolar, Bangarpet and Malur towns as well as 45 villages of the three taluks.

Mr. Siddaramaiah also launched and inaugurated various other development projects, worth ₹2,197 crore in Kolar district.

Ministers H.C. Mahadevappa, K.H. Muniyappa, Member of Parliament Muniswamy, and MLAs K.Y. Nanje Gowda and S.N. Narayanaswamy were present on the occasion.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at the Yaragol dam in Bangarpet taluk of Kolar district on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

From Page One

HC frowns on daughter's 'gift' to parents

"The liability to look after the aged father and mother is not a matter of charity but a statutory obligation. The scriptures of this country since millennia have injuncted rakshanti sthavire putra, literally meaning that the sons should look after the parents in the evening of their life," the Bench observed.

Also, the Bench pointed out that even the 1991 resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations stated, "Older persons should benefit from family and community care and protection in accordance with each society's system of cultural values." The 2007 Act mandates that the children respect and look after their aged parents, the Bench noted.

Pointing out that many cases of harassment of parents did not come to light at all, for obvious reasons, the Bench said that several such cases were coming before the court, and it was not acceptable. The Bench also advised the courts, authorities, and the tribunals to be extra vigilant and strict in dealing with such cases.

After nearly 33 months, State stops COVID bulletins

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

After consistently releasing daily COVID-19 bulletins for nearly 33 months, Karnataka's Health Department has stopped giving the daily updates since November 7.

Instead, the COVID data will now be updated on the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP) on a daily basis. The daily bulletins have already been stopped in some neighbouring States, including Kerala, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The first COVID-19 media bulletin was issued on February 3, 2020, much ahead of the first case that was reported on March 8 that year in Karnataka.

The COVID data will now be updated on the Integrated Health Information Platform on a daily basis. FILE PHOTO

Back then, the bulletins mostly had general information on disease surveillance. The department started issuing detailed bulletins from March 2020 when international passengers began bringing in more cases. Subsequently, more indicators entered the daily bulletin from May 2020. A State COVID-19 war room was set up to collate information from districts, formulate the data and analyse trends.

On May 5 this year, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared an end to the COVID pandemic, saying it no longer qualifies as a global emergency. The action reversed a declaration that was first made on January 30, 2020, when the disease had not even been named COVID-19 and when there were no major outbreaks beyond China. Following this, on July 20 this year, the Centre stopped testing of international arrivals.

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. told *The Hindu* that the publication of State daily COVID media bulletins has been stopped in consultation and concurrence with the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) under the Union Health Ministry.

"However, COVID-19 data flow will continue on a daily basis through a special surveillance portal on the IHIP under Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP). The COVID media bulletin is being replaced with weekly infectious disease reports on the department's website," the Commissioner said.

Weekly report

Sources in the department said apart from COVID-19 data, the infectious disease reports will include information of respiratory infections, vector borne diseases, water borne diseases, bites, vaccine preventable diseases and zoonotic diseases.

M.K. Sudarshan, former chairman of the State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), said daily updates had become an insignificant activity now that the COVID disease transmission in the State ceased to pose a threat to the community at large. "The disease has become practically endemic. In recent months, the daily positive cases are in single digits (sometimes even zero), hospitalisations are occasional and deaths (mostly with COVID and not due to COVID) are rare. In this context, there is no need for a daily bulletin," he said. After the third wave subsided in February-March 2022, there was another minor spike in April this year just ahead of the Assembly elections. The Centre had then directed the State to conduct a COVID-19 mock drill to ensure operational readiness of health facilities for managing COVID-19 cases. However, the spike quickly subsided.

Assets case: SC refuses to intervene in CBI plea against DKS

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has refused to entertain a petition filed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against a decision of the Karnataka High Court to grant interim stay to the probe against Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in a disproportionate assets case.

"The impugned order (of the High Court) being interim in nature, we are not inclined to interfere with the same, more particularly when the petitioner - CBI - has already filed an application for vacation of the stay granted in the impugned order passed by the High Court, before the High Court," a Bench headed by Justice Bela M. Trivedi observed in an order passed on Friday. However, the court requested the HC to hear and dispose of the application filed by the central investigating agency to lift the interim stay order. "It is requested that the High Court may hear and dispose of the application filed by the CBI seeking vacation of stay and the appeal pending before it as expeditiously as possible and preferably within two weeks," the apex court said. The case related to a ₹ 74 crore disproportionate assets case instituted by the CBI in 2019. The then B.S. Yediyurappa government had granted the sanction for prosecution. The allegations against Mr. Shivakumar was based on a raid conducted in his offices followed by a probe by the Directorate of Enforcement. CBI had filed the case under the Prevention of Corruption Act in 2020.

A new panel will look into sub-quota for Madigas: PM

The committee will look into the Dalit community's demand for proportional quota within the Scheduled Caste reservation, says Modi addressing the 'Vishwaroopa Mahasabha' in Hyderabad

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the constitution of a committee soon on empowering the Dalit (Scheduled Castes) communities, including ensuring justice to the Madiga community fighting for its proportional quota within the SC reservation for about three decades and also to pursue the legal battle going on in the Supreme Court.

"From today onwards, Manda Krishna, founder of the Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi (MRPS) is my leader in the movement to end the decades of injustice being done to the community. I will be on his side till getting justice to you all," Mr. Modi said addressing the Madiga community gathered in large numbers at the "Vishwaroopa Mahasabha" of the downtrodden sections organised by MRPS here on Saturday.

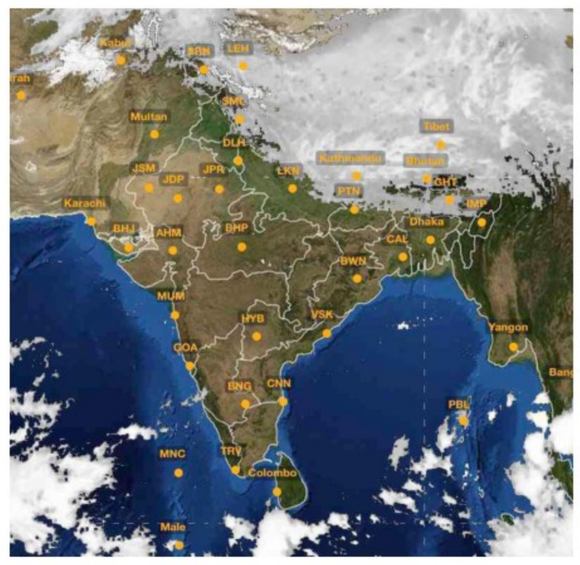
PM Narendra Modi seen with Manda Krishna, founder of the Madiga Reservation Porata Samithi, in Hyderabad on Saturday. NAGARA GOPAL

Reiterating that it was only the Bharatiya Janata Party that would ensure social justice in the country, Mr. Modi said only a "double-engine" government of the BJP at the Centre and the State would make 'Bangaru' (prosperous) Telangana possible. He stated that he was committed to take the fight of Madiga community that commenced in Telangana (combined Andhra Pradesh) in 1994 to its logical conclusion.

The Prime Minister announced that the Centre (Food Corporation of India) would procure 20 lakh tonnes of parboiled rice produced in the kharif season from Telangana and aksed the State not to delay the procurement process in the name of elections as poll code would not come in the way to help the farming community.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Andaman & Nicobar Islands

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	31.2	18.0	Kozhikode	—	34.2	25.6
Ahmedabad	—	35.0	20.8	Kurnool	—	34.6	21.2
Aizawl	—	30.3	17.2	Lucknow	2	27.7	18.6
Allahabad	—	33.3	18.8	Madurai	1	31.2	24.1
Bengaluru	—	30.0	18.4	Mangaluru	0.1	33.2	24.4
Bhopal	—	31.6	18.0	Mumbai	—	36.3	24.8
Bhubaneswar	—	32.2	20.2	Mysuru	—	31.0	21.1
Chandigarh	4.8	27.8	14.4	New Delhi	—	26.3	13.8
Chennai	—	32.0	24.2	Patna	—	29.9	19.5
Coimbatore	—	30.9	23.2	Port Blair	13	31.8	24.7
Dehradun	1	26.6	13.8	Puducherry	—	31.2	24.2
Gangtok	—	18.8	10.7	Pune	38.2	30.2	19.3
Goa	—	33.0	24.7	Raipur	—	33.8	20.3
Guwahati	—	30.8	17.2	Ranchi	—	29.4	15.6
Hubballi	—	30.0	19.0	Shillong	—	21.8	10.5
Hyderabad	—	32.2	20.4	Shimla	21	21.0	9.6
Imphal	—	27.7	12.1	Srinagar	9	12.8	4.2
Jaipur	0.3	27.5	18.4	Thiruvananthapuram	2	33.0	24.2
Kochi	1	32.8	25.0	Tiruchi	—	30.7	24.4
Kohima	—	22.4	9.0	Vijayawada	—	32.2	22.6
Kolkata	—	30.8	21.2	Visakhapatnam	—	33.2	24.6

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	3	.39	177	158	
Bengaluru	6	.10	.58	112	107	
Chennai	3	4	.29	167	117	
Delhi	8	.41	.66	230	209	
Hyderabad	2	.34	.54	152	135	
Kolkata	.12	.54	.51	302	199	
Lucknow	9	.48	.51	194	186	
Mumbai	3	.43	.21	149	147	
Pune	128	195	112	140	93	
Visakhapatnam	5	.62	.40	239	244	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 382 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

Versatile Telugu actor Chandramohan exits the scene

Ravi Reddy
HYDERABAD

Popular Telugu actor Chandramohan passed away in a private hospital here on Saturday morning.

The 80-year-old actor had cardiac and kidney ailments.

Family members said the last rites will be performed on Monday.

Condolences poured in for the actor, best remembered as a hero, comedian and character actor.

Born on May 23, 1943, in Pamidimukkala village in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh as Mallampalli Chandrasekhara Rao, he did B.Sc. (Agriculture) from the Agriculture College, Bapatla.

Govt. employee once

A government employee with the Agriculture Department, Chandramohan was a reluctant entrant into the industry despite his theatre and stage experience. He was goaded by his brother-in-law to audition for *Rangula Ratnam* in then Madras. After he got selected for the film, offers started coming in, and Chandramohan never looked back. *Rangula Ratnam* was followed by *Sukha Dukhalu* in 1968, where he played Vanisri's brother. His good looks, dialogue delivery, and dancing skills helped him grab versatile roles, and he went on to act with top heroines such as Jayasudha, Jayaprada and Sridevi.

Chandramohan

Acted in 900 films

Chandramohan was known to have starred with many debutant woman actors in the Telugu film industry. Many of them would call him their lucky mascot.

In a career spanning over five decades, Chandramohan acted in over 900 films. He won the State award for best actor for the 1978 Sridevi-starrer *Padaharella Vayasu*. The film *Chandamama Raave* brought him the best male comedian award, and he went on to bag the Nandi best character actor award in 2006 for *Athanokkade*. His first Tamil film was *Naalai Namadhe* (1975).

Chandramohan is remembered for his sterling performance in *Seetamalakshmi* (1978), *Rendu Rella Aaru* (1985), *Manmadhudu* (2002), *7/G Rainbow Colony* (2004), and *Janda Pai Kapiraju* (2015).

His career had a seamless evolution – from lead roles as a hero to comedian to powerful character portrayals. Playing the roles of a father, an uncle, or a neighbour – he played those characters with conviction and made them more relatable to the audience.

Bright days ahead, Shivakumar tells Cong. workers in A.P.

APCC chief Gidugu Rudra Raju presenting a memento to Karnataka Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar in Vijayawada on Saturday. G.N. RAO

P. Sujatha Varma
VIJAYAWADA

Karnataka's Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Saturday said the Congress cadre in Andhra Pradesh should not lose heart, as good days are ahead.

"The party may not have even a single representative either in the State Assembly or [MP from State] in Parliament today, but this is not a permanent feature. There is a sunrise after sunset, that is the law of nature," he said at a press conference at Andhra Ratna Bhavan here.

"Today you may not have the numbers, but the situation will change when the Congress will come to power at the Centre and extend its full support for strengthening the party unit in Andhra Pradesh." Mr. Shivakumar said. He advised workers to build the party from the grassroot level in every Assembly constituency. He said neither the TDP nor the YSR Congress Party had a national outlook. "No party can survive without a national outlook," he said.

Telangana Cong. leader quits; blames TPCC chief

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Congress suffered a setback in Munugode Assembly constituency in Nalgonda district of Telangana after senior leader Palvai Sravanthi resigned on Saturday alleging that the party has become a commercial entity because of 'one person'.

In a letter to Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, she rued that their 'silence' was doing no good to the party in Telangana. Targeting TPCC chief A. Revanth Reddy, Ms. Sravanthi said ever since he was welcomed into the party, he had been scripting its end and nullifying values and principles that the party stood for.

"It is highly deplorable how Mr. Rajagopal Reddy, who was responsible for Munugode bypoll and who was crying foul against Mr. Revanth Reddy, was overnight taken back and given a ticket," she remarked.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is here by notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the schedule property from its owner Mr.Sayed Mohammed Aaaga residing at No.455, Jamia Masjid steet, Mather Khan Mohalla, Ramanagar Town and District, Karnataka. Any person/s, institutions have any manner of right, title, interest, claim, charge or lien over the schedule property or otherwise have any lawful objection/s for sale of the schedule property by the afore said owners, they are hereby called upon to file their objections in writing through Regd., post Ack., due, along with the legal supporting documents on which they rely with the undersigned within 10 days from the date of publication of this notice. Objections received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of Agricultural land bearing Old Sy. No. 49, New Sy. No.49/2 having an extent of 8.39 Acres (including 1.08 Acres of kharab land) situated at Lakshmipura Village, Kotagal Hobli, Ramanagar Tq & District, bounded on :

East: Sy. No.49/1 land, **West:** Govt. Stream (Halla)
North: Sy.No.48 land,
South: Govt. Road and Govt. Stream (canal)

Sd/-
VIJAYAKUMAR S.
VKS AND ASSOCOATES
Opposite Ayyappa Temple,11th Cross Cubbon Pet
Bengaluru-560 002, Mob: 94838 81166
Mail. vksla007@gmail.com

Date: 12.11.2023
Place : Bengaluru

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/Trans(W&M)C/KLB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/23-24/3691 Date:10.11.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Through KPPP Portal ONLY)

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites bids for tender for the following works:

1) Bid Enquiry No: :SEE/Tr(W&M)C/KLB/DCA/EE(O)/ AEE-2/2023-24/ Additional Wadi, Call-2/ Dated: 02.11.2023 for "Providing additional 1x10MVA, Power Transformer along with additional switch gear at 110/11KV Wadi Sub station in Kalaburagi District Chittapur Taluka including supply of equipment's/materials, erection (including civil works), testing & commissioning on PTK basis (major materials such as Power Transformer, 11kV Switchgear will be supplied by KPTCL).

2) Bid Enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)C/KLB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/2023-24/Additional Nalwar, Call-2/ Dated: 03.11.2023 for "Providing Additional 1X10MVA, Power Transformer at 110/33/11kV Nalwar Sub station in Kalaburagi District Chittapur Taluk, including supply of equipments/materials, erection (including civil works), testing & commissioning on PTK basis (major materials such as Power Transformer, 11kV Switchgear will be supplied by KPTCL).

3) Bid Enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)C/KLB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/2023-24/Additional Chincholi, Dtd:02.11.2023 for Providing Additional 1X10MVA, 110/11KV Power Transformer along with additional switch gear at 110/33/11KV Chincholi Sub-Station in Chincholi Taluk, Kalaburagi Dist. including supply of equipment's / materials, erection (including civil works), testing & commissioning on PTK basis (major materials such as Power Transformer, 11kV Switchgear will be supplied by KPTCL).

4) Bid Enquiry No:SEE/Tr(W&M)C/KLB/DCA/EE(O)/AEE-2/2023-24/Afzalpur Capacitor Bank, Dtd:04.11.2023 for Providing 20 MVAr Capacity,110 kV voltage class Capacitor Bank along with allied equipments at 110/33/11 kV Afzalpur sub-station in Afzalpur Taluk,Kalaburagi District.

The bids will be received through e-procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the E-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on hyperlink **"List of Tenders" on or after 13.11.2023.** Any other details can be had from the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer Ele.,
Trans (W&M) Circle KPTCL, Prasarana Bhavan,
Sedam Road, Kalaburagi,

From Page One

One voter, two States, two votes

People in the 14 villages draw benefits of social welfare schemes from both the States. "We have two voter cards, two Aadhaars, and get rations and pensions from both States. KCR [Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao] also gives us the Kalyana Lakshmi scheme [financial assistance to the bride's family], but neither of them gives us *pattas* [title deeds] for our lands we have been cultivating for decades," said Subhabai Mallahari Waghmare, 60, from Parandoli.

These villages have two Anganwadi centres, two primary healthcare centres, two water tanks, and two schools (Marathi- and Telugu-medium) run by the two State governments. In a country where jobs are sparse, people have two MGNREGS job cards. Each village even has two sarpanches. In these rural areas, walls serve as billboards for welfare schemes implemented, in both States in Marathi and Telugu.

"We are not worried about 'one nation, one election' and don't want to give up our dual voting right, as that could curtail our double benefits without any legal solution," a villager said.

A history of separation

The issue dates back to the unresolved tensions that arose during the linguistic reorganisation of States in 1956. This dispute led to inter-State tensions, more so when the Andhra Pradesh government set up polling stations in these villages for the first time during the 1989 election. (Telangana was carved out of Andhra Pradesh on June 2, 2014). It was further escalated in 1999 when the Andhra Pradesh High Court ruled that the villages be part of the Telugu State.

Maharashtra contested this decision in the Supreme Court, leading to a debate about dual voting, though the matter remained unresolved as elections were held separately in Chandrapur (in Maharashtra) and the united Adilabad district (in undivided A.P.) in 2004. That year, when the Election Commission mandated that voters choose a single constituency, Mr. Kamble recalled the impact: women voted in the Chandrapur constituency while men voted in Adilabad. "But now, we don't have that problem. We vote in both elections," said Waman Pawar of Maharajguda.

The Election Commission will be setting up four polling stations in the disputed villages for the forthcoming Assembly election. Telangana Chief Electoral Officer Vikas Raj, said, "After the delimitation process in 2006, these villages were included in the 005-Asifabad constituency. In 2004, recognising the territorial dispute, the Election Commission issued instructions to the CEOs of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra to take measures to avoid double voting."

NIA files chargesheet in Khalistan outfit case

Operating from the Philippines, Ammy and Amrik Singh were actively engaged in inducting the youth into the KTF. Their activities extended to smuggling of arms and explosives from Pakistan, as well as carrying out extortion and the subsequent channelling of the crime proceeds for terrorist activities, the agency said.

The accused facing chargesheet, at the behest of Arsh Dalla, raised funds for the KTF. The terrorist group had carried out targeted killings and firings at the residences of potential victims, coercing them into complying with their extortion demands. The NIA investigation allegedly revealed that extortion funds were being systematically transferred to various foreign countries through both banking and non-banking channels. "These illicit financial transactions were aimed at fuelling terrorist activities in India," it said. The KTF operatives were involved in regular recruitment and handling of their terror syndicate associates from abroad. They were also involved in the smuggling of arms, ammunition, and explosives from across the border through drones, it added.

Earlier, the NIA had filed a chargesheet against nine accused persons in the same case on July 22. It said that 12 other members of the KTF and their associates linked to the Babbar Khalsa International are currently under investigation.

One lakh orders light up Kashmir's pottery scene

"The modern way of life brought down the use of earthen utensils in Kashmir, denting sales. The past three years, however, have seen a revival of sorts. Diwali has played a role in it. Besides, glazed pottery is again in fashion in Kashmir, making pottery a viable option to earn our living," Mr. Umar, a commerce graduate, said. He has hired two additional workers to meet the demand of about 20,000 lamps this season.

The localities of potters in Zewan, Lethpora, Nishat and Rainawari too chipped in to meet the demand. "We are getting orders from Jammu and outside," Mr. Umar said. A rough estimate from the kilns in Srinagar and Ganderbal districts suggested that over 1 lakh lamps have been supplied from the Valley this year for Deepavali.

The revival of the pottery sector in Kashmir is spurred on by the introduction of electricity-driven wheels and spinners, making it less labour-intensive. This year, the government announced training, credit, and market support for potters in Kashmir under the PM Vishwakarma Kaushal Samman.

Drug smugglers find new route via Mizoram, evade clashes-hit Manipur

Traffickers of narcotic substances from Assam and Mizoram have used excavators to carve a 10-km path from the International Border to the nearest habitation in the neighbouring country, officials say; the track starts from the Tiau river, which marks India's border with Myanmar

Rahul Karmakar
ZOKHAWTHAR (MIZORAM)

Indian smugglers and their local contacts on either side of the International Border used excavators to carve out a 10-km "jeepable road" in Myanmar for a new drug route through Mizoram, officials said.

Dawn is the name of the nearest habitation from Lungkawlh, a village in Serchhip district in central Mizoram near the border with Myanmar.

Officials of the State's Excise and Narcotics Department discovered the track from the Tiau river – it marks India's border with Myanmar – to Dawn after smugglers began using the route to avoid the ethnic conflict-scarred Manipur, considered a more strategic and convenient passage.

A couple of couriers caught by the State police carrying heroin and a 10-kg bundle of methamphetamine pills a few months ago confessed to members of the ring forcing the track through the hilly terrain with excavators.

The Tiau has ankle to knee-deep water for most part of the year and its rocky bed allows easy crossing. The river runs southward along the international edge of Saitual district through Champhai, Serchhip, and Hnahthial district where it meets the Tuichang river and flows onward as the Chhimtuipui.

A vantage view of the India-Myanmar border with the near-dry Tiau river snaking through the landscape. Myanmar is on the left,and Mizoram on the right of the river. RAHUL KARMAKAR

"Drug trafficking controlled largely by some people in [southern Assam's] Karimganj district has always been a problem for Mizoram. But the volume of smuggling increased after Manipur started burning on May 3, disrupting the Moreh-Tamu route," Peter Zohmingthanga, Deputy Commissioner (Enforcement) of the Excise and Narcotics Department, told *The Hindu*.

"Some 90% of the drugs that would have been smuggled in through Manipur during normal times find their way through the Zokhawthar area. Several agencies are intercepting consignments that find their way through Zokhawthar but the 10% being trafficked further south through Serchhip district from Dawn is a new worry because of remoteness and issues of accessibility," he said.

Mizoram Director-General of Police Anil Shukla admitted that the State has become a major transit for narcotic substances from Myanmar to other parts of India.

While Tiddim in Myanmar's Chin State feeds the narcotic substances to Zokhawthar, 234 km southeast of Mizoram's capital Aizawl, Dawn, also in Chin State, is serviced from Thlantlang, the nearest urban centre across the border.

Enforcement officials said a police checkpoint set up at Lungkawlh has made the drug smugglers take a diversion from Lungkawlh-Dawn 'road' north to Sailulak in the Serchhip district. Another "stopgap" route is from Dawn to Ngharchhip in the Hnahthial district south of Serchhip through Ralpel (Myanmar).

Meth worry

A series of seizures by the State agencies and the paramilitary Assam Rifles, authorised in March 2022 to seize and collect information under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, have reportedly checked the inflow of drugs through Mizoram in the past couple of months.

"The terrain is tough and the Tiau is easy to cross at many stretches where it passes through hill-slope jungles on either side. We have caught several people, many of them [from] Myanmar, ferrying drugs in small and large quantities but many could be slipping through," Jeevan Kumar, the officer in charge at the Zokhawthar police station, said.

Zokhawthar, a border trade centre, is about 40 km from Champhai, the headquarters of the Champhai district. Both places are within the 16-km distance a Myanmar national is allowed to travel according to the free movement regime (FMR) agreed upon by the two countries.

"The traffickers usually move at night or dawn through jungle tracks, often on Kenbos [Myanmar-made two-wheelers illegal in India but used within the FMR]. On November 10, our teams seized 2.61 kg of heroin and cash totalling ₹19.52 crore from five Myanmar nationals in three different operations in Champhai district," an Assam Rifles officer posted on the India-Myanmar border said.

From January to October 2023, the Assam Rifles recovered 18 weapons, contraband items worth ₹74.03 crore, and drugs worth ₹911.28 crore from 131 Indians and 58 Myanmar nationals.

Officials of the State agencies contest the worth of drugs "as heroin and methamphetamine pills are sold at 1-5% of the price they command in India's metros".

"What is worrying is the spike in the smuggling of methamphetamine pills or crystal meth, increasingly popular among the youth as stimulants. From 9.108 kg between 2015 and 2018, the meth seizure from 2019 to 2022 jumped to 376.764 kg, which could be the tip of the iceberg," an Excise and Narcotics official said.

Inducing artificial rain to fix lingering pollution remains a nebulous science

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

The Delhi government's attempt to alleviate severe pollution in Delhi by resorting to artificial rain or cloud seeding is an experimental endeavour with no evidence so far that it will be successful in non-monsoon months. Though cloud seeding has been attempted since the 1940s and was pioneered by the United States military, having clouds deliver enough rain over a desired region continues to be a nebulous endeavour.

With air quality "severely" bad, the Delhi government met experts from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur earlier this week, who plan to submit a proposal to the government, which will in turn submit it to the Supreme Court. The plan, the full details of which are not known, is to fly aircraft into rain clouds – which are anticipated in North India around November 20 – and sprinkle a proprietary salt solution on them. Much like seeds sprayed on fertile soil, the hope is that these salts will interact with water droplets in the clouds, make them bigger and heavier, and they will eventually condense as rain.

A view of Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi on Saturday. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

In principle, this works, but many factors must align for it to succeed, as the most exhaustive analysis of cloud seeding in India has found. Such an experiment in Solapur, Maharashtra over two monsoons in 2018 and 2019, the results of which were published in the *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society* in October, concluded that seeding resulted in 18% more rainfall or about 8.67 mm more rainfall (or 867 million litres of water) than in the absence of it. Solapur was chosen because it is a rain-shadow region that normally receives little monsoon rain. Even so, the research team, consisting largely of atmospheric-research scientists from the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, could find 276 "convective clouds". These are clouds with a minimum of 0.5 gm of water per sq. cm. of cloud.

Different cloud shapes

Thara Prabhakaran, the lead scientist for the experiment, said that differences in cloud shapes and their existing water content significantly influenced the success with inducing artificial rain.

The ₹200 crore CAIPEX Cloud Aerosol Interaction and Precipitation Enhancement Experiment (CAIPEEX Phase-4), as it was called, even tracked individual clouds to see the extent to which they were influenced by seeding. "Not all clouds are seedable, not all clouds will make rain. There are clouds that will get dissipated on seeding. Overall, however, there was a net increase of 18% [rainfall] in a 100 sq. km area. Our experiment was very controlled and we selected clouds based on their potential to make rain," Dr. Prabhakaran told *The Hindu*.

Conducting the experiment during pre-monsoon or post monsoon (as is the case in Delhi) could have different outcomes as the number of convective clouds were fewer and relatively lower in the atmosphere (and therefore having less water), Dr. Prabhakaran said. Some of the rain from the seeded clouds also drifted several kilometres beyond the marked area, she added.

The researchers at IIT-Kanpur, who are gearing up for the cloud seeding exercise, say that the 18% improvement in rainfall observed in the CAIPEX experiment was an encouraging reason to attempt cloud seeding to allay Delhi's pollution woes. Sachchida Nand Tripathi, Professor, , IIT-Kanpur, said, "Even a few millimetres of rain can go a long way in clearing the air."

India, EU taking key steps to advance ties on maritime front

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

As India and the European Union (EU) look to expand defence and security cooperation, the EU's first Defence Attaché to the country took charge earlier this month while the two sides also conducted the first naval exercise together. Officials noted that the ambit of security cooperation is expanding especially with focus on the Indo-Pacific region.

The European Union (EU) and India conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea last month. ANI

"We have increased a number of maritime exercises between EU and India... especially France and Italy. EU is now not only a trade and investment partner but also a security partner," an EU official said on the sidelines of a discussion organised by the think-tanks Council for Strategic and Defence Research and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung. "We are now focussing on security, energy, sensitive technologies," the official said, adding that there is lot of focus on digital connectivity.

Last week, Captain (Navy) Fabrizo Falzi, who has earlier served as the Italian Defence Attaché (DA) in India, took over as the first DA in the Delegation of the European Union in New Delhi. The EU has limited number of DAs worldwide and the appointment in India shows the importance the organisation attaches to the ties, another EU official noted.

"The Government of India reserves the right, on the principle of reciprocity, to avail suitable reciprocal arrangement, as and when required," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a letter accepting the appointment.

Recently, India and Italy signed a defence cooperation agreement. The official also pointed to the agreement between space agencies. India and Europe are the terminals of the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) corridor which was announced on the sidelines of the G20 leaders summit in September.

Maiden naval exercise

On October 24, India and EU conducted their first joint naval exercise in the Gulf of Guinea which saw the participation of Indian Navy's *INS Sumedha*, an offshore patrol vessel, joined by Italian navy ship *ITS Foscari*, French navy ship *FS Ventôse*, and Spanish navy ship *Tornado*, the Indian Navy said in a statement. The exercise followed the third meeting of the EU-India Maritime Security Dialogue on October 5 in Brussels.

The four ships practised a series of tactical manoeuvres in international waters off the coast of Ghana, including a boarding exercise, a flying exercise using the helicopters embarked on French ship *Ventôse* and *INS Sumedha*, and transfer of personnel between ships, the Navy said. "This exercise was followed by a knowledge sharing session in Accra, Ghana which built on the joint experience at sea to improve operational know-how."

Uttarakhand govt. plans to hold special Assembly session amid buzz over UCC

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Uttarakhand government is planning to call a special Assembly session in the second half of November, during which it intends to pass one of two much-awaited Bills – either the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), or a proposal for 10% horizontal reservation for statehood agitators and their dependents – according to sources in the government.

A Secretary-level official confirmed to *The Hindu* that orders have been issued to start preparations for the special session, though its dates have still not been decided.

"We have been told that we should be ready for the session which can be called anytime after the Deepavali holiday. The Bills that may get tabled in the session are either UCC or reservation for Rajya Andolankaris [statehood agitators] and their dependents," he said.

The official also confirmed that the committee formed by the Uttarakhand government in June last year to examine means for the implementation of UCC in the State has not yet submitted its final draft. "But the committee too has been asked to be ready with the same," the official confirmed.

He added that the State cabinet, in September this year, had already granted approval to present the Bill proposing 10% horizontal reservation for statehood agitators and their dependents.

Retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Prakash Desai, who heads the UCC panel, had on Friday said the draft of the UCC is ready.

ASSEMBLY POLLS 2023

Rajasthan's hilly village gets a polling station

Voters of Shergaon, a village in the hills in Rajasthan, will be able to vote in their own turf for the first time, an official said on Saturday.

Chief Electoral Officer Praveen Gupta said that for easy and inclusive voting, the Election Commission has made arrangements to set up polling stations even in inaccessible hilly, remote and sparsely populated areas. Mr. Gupta said that voters of Shergaon, located at an altitude of 1,500 metres in the Abu-Pindwara Assembly constituency of Sirohi district, will be able to vote in their own village for the first time. With the help of forest guards, the polling party will walk for about 18 kilometres in the dense forest to reach this polling station, Mr. Gupta said. He said the polling station has been set up for 117 voters. Earlier, the voters had to go to the polling station in Utraj village. PTI

Posters on voting awareness on display ahead of the Rajasthan Assembly polls, in Bikaner. ANI

'IAF helicopters made 404 trips in Chhattisgarh'

The Indian Air Force conducted 404 sorties with eight Mi-17 choppers for six days, ferrying polling parties along with voting machines in Naxalite violence-affected Bastar division during the recently held first phase of Chhattisgarh polls, a senior election official said on Friday.

Twelve constituencies of Bastar division were among the 20 Assembly segments in Chhattisgarh that went to the polls in the first phase on November 7.

The Chhattisgarh Chief Electoral Officer wrote on X (formerly Twitter) on Friday, "Defying all challenges, the Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted 404 sorties with Eight MI-17s, securely ferrying 853 polling team members to and from 43 locations, enabling a successful electoral process in a tough LWE-affected region. Salute to the India Air Force." PTI

> Congress leaders claim themselves to be heroes. They are not heroes. They are zeroes. Time has come to bid them farewell in Chhattisgarh
>
> **RAJNATH SINGH**
> Defence Minister

Baghel takes a 'goonda' jibe at BJP's Agrawal

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel has said that calling someone else a *goonda* (goon) in front of senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Brijmohan Agrawal is an insult to the word itself.

Talking to reporters on Friday, Mr. Baghel was reacting to an alleged incident of assault on Mr. Agrawal. PTI

> Our fight now is to ensure Nyay, Justice to all our people. It is time to usher back an era of people-centric governance across India
>
> **RAHUL GANDHI**
> Congress leader

Vows made: The manifesto, titled Sankalp Patra, also promises concrete houses to more than 1.3-crore beneficiaries of the 'Ladli Behna Yojana'. A.M.FARUQUI

BJP promises wheat MSP hike, medical colleges in M.P.

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Days ahead of the Assembly election in Madhya Pradesh, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday released its manifesto titled *Sankalp Patra* with a slew of promises, such as increasing the minimum support price (MSP) of wheat to ₹2,700 a quintal and of paddy to ₹3,100 a quintal.

The manifesto launched by BJP national president J.P. Nadda, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, and other party leaders also promised concrete houses to more than 1.3-crore beneficiaries of the State government's flagship scheme 'Ladli Behna Yojana'. The BJP also promised that beneficiaries of 'Ladli Behna' and the Centre's 'Ujjwala Yojana' would receive LPG cylinders at a subsidised rate of ₹450.

The Congress has already released its manifesto in which it had promised to purchase wheat at ₹2,600 per quintal and rice at ₹2,500 per quintal.

The BJP has also promised to establish one engineering institute named Madhya Pradesh Institute of Technology, on the lines of the Indian Institutes of Technologies (IITs), in each division of the State. Mr. Nadda said that if the BJP forms the government in the State, it will also set up one medical college – Madhya Pradesh Institute of Medical Sciences, on the lines of Centre's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) – in each division. A medical city named Atal Medicity would also be established.

Free education

The party has promised free education from kindergarten to postgraduation for girls from below poverty line (BPL) families, Eklavya Model Residential Schools in all Scheduled Tribe-designated blocks of the State, and one medical college each in all tribal districts.

The BJP also proposes a Bundelkhand Development Board with an investment of ₹5,000 crore for the underdeveloped region. It has also promised similar development boards for the Vindhya and Mahakoshal regions. The ruling party, in an attempt to win over the State's 21% tribal population, has promised that ₹3 lakh crore would be spent on the development of the community. The BJP also said that the financial assistance to girls under 'Ladli Lakshmi Yojana' will be increased from ₹1.43 lakh to ₹2 lakh.

Mr. Nadda said that six new expressways will be developed in the State, and promised that two new airports will be developed in Rewa and Singrauli. He said while existing metro rail projects in Bhopal and Indore would be completed, new metro networks will come up in Gwalior and Jabalpur.

With the number of gig workers rising, the party has promised to set up a welfare board for them. It has also promised 100 unit of electricity for ₹100 to every household.

Commenting on the BJP's manifesto, Congress general secretary in charge of Madhya Pradesh Randeep Surjewala called it a "*jumla patra*". "Liars and dishonest people are issuing a *jumla patra*, how do you trust them?," he said.

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Shortage of fertilizers in M.P. sows seeds of discontent among farmers

Farmers complain shortage of fertilizers in cooperative retail outlets and delay in their distribution affecting yield, and demand better management; farmer leaders say situation portrays the govt.'s absolute apathy towards farmers, and alleges nexus with private companies; BJP rubbishes allegation

GROUND REPORT

A.M. Jigeesh
MANDSAUR/ NEEMUCH

Long queues of farmers at government-controlled fertilizer distribution units have become gathering points to discuss the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government's farm policies ahead of the Assembly election in Madhya Pradesh. Farmers complain that shortage of fertilizers in cooperative retail outlets and delay in their distribution will have an impact both on the crops and on votes. The BJP, however, denied the reports of shortage and said if at all there are any issues, the district administrations will address it. The State will go to the polls on November 17.

The Hindu talked to scores of farmers who were on a queue near the Pipaliya Mandi in Mandsaur. This is the same area where six farmers were killed in police firing while protesting for higher minimum support price (MSP) and for adequate quantities of fertilizer and seeds, in June 2017. "I have been waiting here for two days. I need 15 bags of urea and what I will get after submitting relevant documents is two bags [each of 45 kilograms]. They won't be sufficient," said Ramlal, a farmer from Mandsaur.

Women and elderly people were also seen in the store waiting for their turn. "Only limited number of tokens are given, that too on a first come, first served basis. So I camped here overnight to be at the front of the queue. The government should have managed this better as we cannot stay away from our farms at this time. It is very crucial," said Monu Gujjar, another farmer.

Pressing demand: Farmers stand in a queue to collect tokens for urea at Neemuch of Madhya Pradesh on Thursday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Continuing problem

The police have been deployed in these retail outlets to control the rush. "Every such retail outlet has long queues. This is not new. We are facing this for the past few years," said Vijay Singh, another farmer. He said he has sown wheat and chickpeas in his two-acre farmland and needs fertilizers urgently. "I need to provide fertilizers for wheat and chickpea saplings within the next seven days. If I don't get the fertilizers, I will be forced to buy from private retailers where prices are much higher," he added.

Kishore Patidar, a farmers' leader associated with the Samyukt Kisan Morcha, said such long queues portray the absolute apathy of the government towards farmers. "Under the pretext of a slow billing system and other logistical issues, the BJP government is pushing farmers towards private suppliers. Cooperatives are controlled by government and elections are not held for several years. Farmers depend on these cooperative outlets so that there is some respite in the input cost," Mr. Patidar said.

Price difference

According to farmers, private retailers charge about ₹450 for a bag of urea while the price in cooperative stores is ₹266. Similarly, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, or the NPK fertilizer is sold for around ₹1,500 to ₹1,800 at private stores while the designated rate is ₹1,350 (for 50 kg). Di-ammonium phosphate is also costlier with private retailers. "The government is in connivance with the private companies," Mr. Patidar said, demanding direct transfer of subsidies.

The Union government has been maintaining that the country has adequate stocks of fertilizers for this season despite global crises such as the Ukraine-Russia war. The Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers is also monitoring the supply and availability of fertilizers on a daily basis through an integrated e-platform.

The BJP said allegations of long queues and shortage are false. Party spokesman Hitesh Bajpai rubbished the charges.

"There may be local issues which need the District Magistrate's intervention. There is nothing to worry," Dr. Bajpai said, adding that the BJP will manage such issues after December 3, the day of announcement of the results.

Balak Nath brands himself as 'Rajasthan *ka* Yogi', raises communal passions in Tijara

GROUND REPORT

Sobhana K. Nair
ALWAR

Addressing a small gathering at the village temple in Bubkhera, Baba Balak Nath, the BJP candidate from Tijara in Rajasthan, asks, "Have you seen the Bharat-Pakistan match?"

The crowd, consisting largely of Meghwals, a Scheduled Caste community, listens to him impassively.

The clean-shaven, saffron-clad Baba, who has traded his diamond studs for wooden hoops this election season, thunders: "*Match* Pakistan *ke saath jitna hai ki nahi?* (Don't we have to win the match with Pakistan?)" The Bharat-Pakistan euphemism for the Hindu-Muslim divide is not lost on his audience.

The Tijara Assembly segment is part of the Alwar Lok Sabha constituency that Mr. Nath, 39, currently represents. In an election that could go down to the wire, his immediate concern is voting percentage. He does not name any community, but asks, "How much is their voting percentage?" Someone remarks that it goes up to 90%. "And how much is ours," he asks. There is only a scattered response. He exhorts his listeners not to leave any voter behind.

Seeking support: BJP candidate from Tijara Baba Balak Nath addressing villagers at Bub Ka Hera in Alwar. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Since 1967, the seat has been held by Muslim candidates seven times and Yadavs five times

Ahirwal vs Mewat

The Congress has fielded 36-year-old Imran Khan, a former Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) leader who has not formally joined the party, but was granted ticket just days before the deadline to file nominations.

The battle lines are drawn clearly in the "us versus them" metric, and the binary that Mr. Nath drew in his election pitch is an old tactic. The new political map has not erased the ancient Ahirwal-Mewat boundaries. Ahirwal was a post-Mughal principality ruled by Ahirs or Yadavs. The Mewat region is populated by Muslims and Dalits. Development is uneven on the two sides of the Delhi-Alwar highway, which divides the two regions.

In the 12 Assembly elections held since 1967, the seat has been held by Muslim candidates seven times and Yadavs five times. Mr. Nath, who is a mahant of the Nath sect of Hinduism, was born into a Yadav family and is one of the aspirants for the Chief Minister's post in the faction-ridden State unit of the BJP. The only time the BJP has won the Tijara seat was in 2013.

As one crosses over to Rajasthan from Haryana, trudging through dusty Nuh, there are no motorable roads to the villages. At Mansingh Ki Thani, a small hamlet of 50 Meghwal households, voters are waiting patiently for Mr. Nath to arrive, though it is nearly 1 p.m., and he is running late. "We want to show him the condition of our village," says Ravinder Kumar, a 26-year-old electrician who works in the nearby industrial town of Bhiwadi. In his next breath, he adds, "But I have heard that he could be the CM, so I guess it would be good to place our bets on him."

Another man in his mid-40s listening in to the conversation offers his perspective. "No Muslim legislator has ever worked for Mewat. Last time, we had BSP MLA Sandeep Yadav, who later joined the Congress. He also worked only for Ahirwal. No one wants to bring development to Mewat," he says, on condition of anonymity For the last two consecutive terms, the legislators from Tijara have been Yadav.

In this battle between the Yadavs and Muslims, it is the significant population of Dalits who could play a decisive role. Most of the Dalit voters are waiting for a cue from the Meghwal Vikas Samiti, whose president, Mangat Ram, says he will take a call in a day or two. "All I can say is that we have been happy with the Congress government in the State and the same can't be said about our MP," says Mr. Ram.

'Communal agenda'

This is the same pitch adopted by Mr. Nath's opponent. "Our honourable MP can't point to a single foundation stone that he has laid in four-and-a-half years," says Mr. Khan. "He never talks about development. He has a single point agenda of Sanatana Dharma. No religion is in peril here, neither Hinduism nor Islam, but he is trying to fan communal passions," he adds.

Mr. Khan has been busy lodging complaints against Mr. Nath, including a claim that he drove bulldozers while campaigning without holding a heavy-vehicle driving licence.

The use of bulldozers in the BJP campaign is an ode to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, whose name Mr. Nath has adopted to brand himself as "Rajasthan ka Yogi".

Mr. Khan fears that as the polling date nears, the campaign will become more and more divisive.

Rajasthan will reject BJP's polarisation pitch: Ramesh

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Saturday said the people in Rajasthan would reject the BJP's "politics of polarisation" in the Assembly election and support the ruling Congress, which was seeking a mandate based on the State government's performance during the past five years. The BJP is misusing the Central agencies for its electoral benefit, Mr. Ramesh said.

Mr. Ramesh said at a press conference here that the BJP, which was devoid of issues, was using polarisation on the basis of religion and caste as well as the agencies like Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) as its "weapons" for the polls. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his associates are speaking the language of polarisation and making baseless allegations against the Congress government in Rajasthan," he said.

Mr. Ramesh said Rajasthan had emerged as a model State during the Congress rule while the Opposition BJP was not in a position to talk adversely about the State government's welfare schemes.

INBRIEF

3 tourists killed as houseboats catch fire on Dal Lake

Three tourists from Bangladesh lost their lives in a blaze that engulfed five houseboats on Friday night at the tourist hotspot of Dal Lake in Srinagar. An official said a State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team retrieved the bodies from the debris of the houseboats on Saturday. The deceased were identified as Anindaya Kowshal, Das Gupta and Mohammad Moinud. The circumstances under which the houseboats caught fire near Ghat No. 9 in the Dal Lake could not be ascertained immediately. "The administration is dedicated to providing assistance to the victims," Ajaz Asad, Deputy Commissioner of Srinagar, said. The administration also relocated four houseboats to prevent further damage. Regional parties have expressed shock over the fire incident.

Grain tune: PM Modi's millet music gets Grammy nod

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi has made an entry into the halls of global music with a song featuring him and his passion for millet nominated for a Grammy. *"Abundance In Millets"* by Falu and Gaurav Shah, a tune the musicians say was "written and performed" with the Prime Minister, features speeches by Mr. Modi expounding the benefits of his favourite grain. The tune was nominated on Friday in the Best Global Music Performance category. Mr. Modi has said he believes it "will inspire more people to embrace millets for healthy living!". Grammy winners will be announced on February 4. AFP

One dead, several injured in stampede at Surat station

One person died and several more were injured in a stampede at the Surat railway station in Gujarat's Surat district on Saturday. Sources said the stampede occurred when hundreds of passengers tried to board a Bihar-bound train ahead of the festivities. A massive crowd of migrant workers were on the way to their home towns and in a headlong rush the crowds attempted to board the outbound trains resulting in a stampede. The police said they managed to being the situation under control and additional forces were deployed to manage the crowds at the station compound.

Indian fishermen released by Pak. govt. handed over to BSF

Eighty Indian fishermen who were released from a jail in Pakistan have been handed over to Border Security Force (BSF) authorities on the Attari-Wagah border here, officials said on Saturday. The Pakistan government on Thursday released 80 Indian fishermen from the Malir jail in Karachi. Punjab police protocol officer Arun Mahal said all the prisoners crossed over to India on Friday night through the border through the 'Emergency Travel Certificate' issued by the Indian High Commission based at Islamabad. The moment they crossed over to India the fishermen bowed down in respect, he added.

SUDOKU

		7	5	2			8	
6	5	4			8			
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		5		9	3			1
	3	1				7	9	
2			6	4		5		
				6				
			4			3	1	9
	9			3	7	2		

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

6	3	1	8	2	4	5	9	7
5	8	7	1	3	9	4	2	6
2	4	9	7	5	6	8	3	1
4	2	6	9	7	1	3	5	8
8	1	3	2	4	5	6	7	9
9	7	5	6	8	3	1	4	2
7	5	2	4	1	8	9	6	3
3	6	8	5	9	2	7	1	4
1	9	4	3	6	7	2	8	5

'Rishi Sunak keen on visiting India, but difficult issues remain in FTA'

British High Commissioner to India Alex Ellis says both Prime Ministers are signalling to their systems that they want to find a way to get a deal, but there is no hiding the difficulties; External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to raise concerns about Khalistan threats during his four-day London visit

Suhasini Haidar
NEW DELHI

Negotiations for a India-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (FTA) are the main focus of ties between the two countries at present, with several "hard bits" that could need intervention at a "senior level", the British High Commissioner to India, Alex Ellis, said on Saturday, speaking ahead of External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar's visit to London this week. He added that British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was "keen" on visiting India, but that the focus on the FTA talks came first.

"We are a lot closer than we were a year ago. We are batting deep as they would say in the Cricket World Cup, and now we are on to the big and tricky issues, and they are substantially difficult," Mr. Ellis said, when asked about a timeline for the FTA to be completed.

Asked whether Mr. Sunak's visit was contingent on the FTA being ready to sign, Mr. Ellis told *The Hindu* in an exclusive interview that the "Prime Minister [Sunak] is keen to come [to India]. But first of all, we have got to focus on the FTA," pointing to an "intense period of negotiations" that are now ongoing, with officials meeting regularly to work through issues.

FTA talks drag on

Mr. Sunak's proposed bilateral visit to India in October-November is understood to have been put off due to delays in the FTA talks. The talks, which began after Brexit in January 2022, are now in their 14th round, with about five of the 26 chapters still unresolved, sources said.

In a telephone conversation last week, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Mr. Sunak also discussed the progress in the FTA talks.

Mr. Jaishankar, who left for the U.K. on Saturday on a four-day visit that officials said was "long overdue", is expected to be joined by U.K. Foreign Secretary James Cleverly to celebrate Deepavali at the Indian High Commission. He will hold several high-level meetings in London to discuss strategic ties, as well as India's concerns over the issue of Khalistani extremism in the U.K.

Alex Ellis said that India and the U.K. have a better understanding on how to deal with extremism in different forms. R. RAVINDRAN

Top priority

Diplomatic sources have said that the U.K. FTA is India's top priority at present. Deals with Australia for the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) and the European Union and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) talks with Switzerland, Norway, Finland and Liechtenstein, as well as with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are next in line. With election season in India in 2024 and the U.K. headed to polls by January 2025, Mr. Sunak and Mr. Modi are hopeful that the FTA will be completed by early 2024, but have not set any deadline yet.

"I think it's clear both Prime Ministers are signalling to their systems that they want to find a way to get a deal. But there is no hiding the difficulties," Mr. Ellis said. The problems include the Rules of Origin, given that the U.K. has an integrated supply chain with the European Union, while India wants to favour goods that include a higher value addition from the U.K. itself. In addition, tariffs over goods such as Scotch whisky and automobiles, including electric vehicles, from the U.K., and leather and textiles from India are among the sticking points. Meanwhile, India has yet to commit to giving legal and financial U.K. firms access to the Indian market.

"So what we want to do now is try and boil down the issues to the few big ones which need resolution at a senior level, to cut away quite a lot of the second order issues... and then we can actually focus on the really hard bits at the end," Mr. Ellis added, clarifying that mobility, or more visas for Indians, are not included in the agreement.

When asked about the U.K. decision to put India on a list of "safe states", effectively disallowing any Indians that enter the U.K. illegally on "small boats" across the English Channel from applying for asylum, Mr. Ellis said that the move was an "autonomous judgment".

"To sustain legal migration we have to tackle illegal migration. And at different points in the first quarter of this year, Indians moved up to number two in terms of nationals coming in small boats across the Channel, crossing the English Channel. So you need to tackle that as well," Mr. Ellis said, adding that Indians are the largest recipients of work visas to the U.K.

Mr. Jaishankar, whose visit comes eight months after a major India-U.K. spat over protests by Khalistani extremists at the High Commission in London, is also expected to raise India's concerns on the issue, including over the most recent video by the Sikhs for Justice group, banned by India, that threatened any passengers taking Air India flights on November 19.

"We're always keeping under review the list [of extremist groups] and looking at the behaviour of different kinds of groups. I feel that [India and the U.K.] have a better understanding and a more greater confidence on the two sides of how to deal with extremism in different forms in the U.K.," Mr. Ellis said in the interview.

Pre-sale of dolls crafted by women in Manipur exceeds expectations

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The online pre-sale campaign for crochet dolls crafted by Manipur's internally displaced women exceeded expectations by garnering $11,000, officials said on Saturday.

A couple of months after the ongoing ethnic conflict broke out in Manipur on May 3, a Singapore-based brand named 1 Million Heroes launched 'Stitching Hope', an initiative to equip the violence-displaced women with skills in the Japanese craft art of amigurumi.

Shaping the narrative

Detailed templates, tools, and materials were provided to women in a few relief camps to create dolls as a viable means to the sustainable livelihood of persons affected by the ethnic violence that has so far claimed close to 200 lives and displaced more than 60,000 persons.

Crafting hope: Women in a relief camp in Manipur's Imphal valley crocheting dolls. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The online campaign for the dolls, which ran from October 7 to November 5, garnered $11,000 worth of pre-sale orders from North America, Australia, Europe, and Asia.

Monish Karam of 1 Million Heroes said the business generated through the pre-sale campaign was twice the initial target, attributing it to a blend of compassion and the therapeutic aspect of crafting dolls.

"The success of the campaign is not just about numbers but about the human connection. It is about children around the world learning from the stories of resilience, and about our artisans finding healing and purpose through their craft," he said.

Officials of the State's Trade, Commerce, and Industries said the campaign, while transitioning to the production phase, has shaped a narrative of hope among the women for reclaiming control over their lives. "The dolls are expected to be delivered to homes across the world before December-end," an official said.

Scrap deal to send Indian workers to Israel: trade unions

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ten Central trade unions (CTUs) have questioned the Centre's proposed move to send about one lakh Indian construction workers to Israel to replace Palestinian nationals working there. They alleged that the Union government is playing a despicable role in supporting the Israeli plans to throw out Palestinian workers, and retaliation for the Hamas attack is only an excuse. Diplomatic sources, however, said the request from Israel's construction industry has been discussed, but there is no agreement yet.

Asked about the proposal, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said the government was not aware of any specific request, but that India has been discussing a mobility and migration agreement with Israel to facilitate and protect Indian workers in the construction and caregiver fields.

The trade unions said both countries signed an agreement in May 2023 during the visit of the Israeli Foreign Minister Eli Cohen to send 42,000 Indian workers to Israel, out of which 34,000 were to be brought into the construction industry, to replace the Palestinian workers.

The trade unions said nothing could be more immoral and disastrous for India than "exporting" workers to Israel.

Scientists pull paper from journal over Arunachal mention

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

In a spillover of the border dispute between India and China, Indian scientists have been forced to withdraw a paper from an international peer-reviewed journal published from China on the grounds that it could not mention Arunachal Pradesh.

Mukesh Thakur, Lalit Kumar Sharma, and Avijit Ghosh were forced to withdraw a paper on the white-cheeked macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) on the grounds that it could not mention Arunachal Pradesh as the sampling site. The Chinese government contested the inclusion of Arunachal Pradesh in the study, claiming it did not align with their defined map.

The paper, "*Two Y chromosome lineages in white-cheeked macaque (Macaca leucogenys)*" was accepted on February 14, 2023, and published online on April 5, 2023, in *Wildlife Letters*.

Wildlife Letters is a recently launched international peer-reviewed journal and is published from Northeast Forestry University in China.

Rare find: An Indian team discovered the white-cheeked macaque from two places in Arunachal Pradesh. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'Scientific terrorism'

"This is nothing but scientific terrorism. Since April 2023, I have exchanged several emails with the journal authorities relating to the paper. I have taken strong stand that I cannot replace Arunachal Pradesh and was forced to withdraw the paper in the last week of October," Mukesh Thakur, scientist and officer in-charge, Mammal Sectional, Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), told *The Hindu*.

Dr. Thakur, the lead author of the paper, has more than 100 papers in his name and has been a recipient of several distinguished awards, including the DST Young Scientist (2013), the DST INSPIRE Faculty (2017), the INSA Medal for Young Scientist (2018), and the TULIP LAb Ex Fellow-France (2022). He has also served at the Chinese Academy of Sciences as a Visiting Scientist (2015-16).

"For *Wildlife Letters*, as a journal published in China, we are obligated to follow Chinese maps and use of place names. Our failure not to do so could result in removal of Chinese funding for the journal and create problems for journal staff that are based in China," Marcel Holyoak, co-editor-in-chief for *Wildlife Letters*, wrote to Dr. Thakur in an email dated April 2023.

The co-editor-in-chief suggested that the only option in the current case is that the problems be corrected or "we are forced to withdraw the manuscript".

When the scientists accused the journal of questioning the geopolitical boundaries of India, Professor Holyoak wrote back saying that neither he nor the journal takes any position with respect to geopolitical boundaries, but "we are obliged to follow what is expected of the scientists and journal within China".

In October 2023, Dr. Thakur wrote to the journal saying that their decision to withdraw the paper based on "national regulations concerning the name of specific regions, mentioned in the article, in my view" was "unwarranted".

He also said that he was willing to pursue legal action through an international court to ensure resolution of the matter.

Lack of support

Dr. Thakur said that he was surprised that there were Indian scientists on the board of the journal who did not support him on the issue. Dr. Thakur, who specialises in the use of DNA technologies, also added that the journal holds a production house in India, and a few Indians employed with the journal's production house also insisted on the omission of Arunachal Pradesh's mention from the paper.

"We are happy that our scientist has remained firm on the issue of the territorial integrity of the country. There could be several such incidents that can go unnoticed and we would urge the Government of India to come up with an advisory on issues where the territorial integrity of the country is concerned," ZSI Director Dhriti Banerjee said.

Discovered by Chinese scientists from South Tibet, white-cheeked macaque (*Macaca leucogenys*) was later reported by Dr. Mukesh and his team from Dibang Valley and West Siang region of Arunachal Pradesh on the basis of camera trapping and DNA analysis. In the paper, which they were forced to withdraw, the scientists explore two paternal lineage of the animal supporting a hybrid origin of the species with the sinica group of macaques.

DHAKA

150 garment factories shut, 11,000 workers charged in Bangladesh

AFP

Bangladeshi garment manufacturers on Saturday shuttered 150 factories "indefinitely", as the police issued blanket charges for 11,000 workers in connection with violent protests demanding a higher minimum wage, officers said. Violent protests demanding better pay erupted last month. AFP

MEXICO

Mexico City imposes severe, months-long water restrictions

AFP

Mexican officials imposed severe, months-long cuts to Mexico City's water supply at midnight on Friday, acting just a month after initial restrictions were ordered as drought dries the capital's reservoirs. Abnormally low rain has dropped the Cutzamala system to 44% lower than it should be at this time of the year. AP

UNITED NATIONS

Over half of Sudan's population needs humanitarian aid, says UN

REUTERS

Almost seven months of war between Sudan's military and a powerful paramilitary group have left a wave of destruction with over half the population in need of humanitarian aid and raised fears of a repeat of the deadly ethnic conflict in Darfur 20 years ago, the United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Sudan said. AP

ISLAMABAD

Pak. court orders return of Nawaz Sharif's seized property, assets

AFP

In a temporary relief to Nawaz Sharif, an accountability court in Pakistan has ordered authorities to release all moveable and immoveable properties seized from the former Prime Minister in 2020 in connection with the Toshakhana corruption case. He is all set to lead the PML-N during the general elections, on Feb. 8. PTI

Gaza's main hospital goes dark amid attacks; toll crosses 11,000

Deaths of patients, especially those in the intensive care unit, have begun as medical devices have stopped working without electricity, says director of Shifa Hospital; Israel Prime Minister says responsibility for any harm to civilians lies with Hamas

Associated Press
DEIR AL-BALAH

Clean sweep: Israeli tanks rolling as an Army bulldozer demolishes a burning building inside the Gaza Strip. AFP

Israel's Prime Minister pushed back on Saturday against calls from Western allies to do more to protect Palestinian civilians, as troops encircled Gaza's largest hospital where doctors said five patients died, including a premature baby, after the last generator ran out of fuel.

Israel has portrayed Shifa Hospital as Hamas's main command post, saying militants were using civilians as human shields there and had set up elaborate bunkers underneath it – claims Hamas and Shifa staff deny. In recent days, fighting near Shifa and other hospitals in the combat zone of northern Gaza has intensified and supplies have run out.

"There is no electricity. Medical devices stopped. Patients, especially those in intensive care, started to die," said Mohammed Abu Selmia, the director of Shifa, speaking by phone over the sound of gunfire and explosions.

Abu Selmia said Israeli troops were "shooting at anyone outside or inside the hospital," and prevented movement between the buildings in the compound.

Asked about reports of troops firing into the Shifa courtyard, the Israeli military would only say that troops are engaged with fighting Hamas in the vicinity and take all feasible measures to prevent harm to civilians. It said soldiers have encountered hundreds of Hamas fighters in underground facilities, schools, mosques and clinics during fighting in Gaza.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the responsibility for any harm to civilians lies with Hamas. His statement came after French President Emmanuel Macron pushed for a ceasefire and urged other leaders to join his call, telling the *BBC* there was "no justification" for Israel's ongoing bombing.

The U.S. has been pushing for temporary pauses that would allow for wider distribution of badly needed aid to civilians in the besieged territory where conditions are increasingly dire. More than 11,070 Palestinians, two-thirds of them women and minors, have been killed since the war began, according to the Gaza Health Ministry.

Arab leaders slam Israel; call out 'double standards'

Agence France-Presse
RIYADH

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, left, arrives for the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation summit, in Riyadh on Saturday. REUTERS

Arab and Muslim leaders on Saturday condemned Israeli forces' "barbaric" actions in Gaza but declined to approve punitive economic and political steps against the country over its war against Hamas.

The outcome of a joint summit in the Saudi capital of the Arab League and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) highlighted regional divisions over how to respond to the war even as fears mount that it could draw in other countries.

The final declaration on Saturday rejected Israeli claims that it is acting in "self-defence" and demanded that the United Nations Security Council adopt "a decisive and binding resolution" to halt Israel's "aggression".

Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who before the war was considering establishing formal diplomatic ties with Israel, told the summit he "holds the occupation [Israeli] authorities responsible for the crimes committed against the Palestinian people". Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi said Islamic nations should designate the Israeli Army a "terrorist organisation".

Prince Faisal bin Farhan, the Saudi Foreign Minister, similarly decried "double standards" in the world's response to the war, saying Israel was getting a pass on violations of international law.

Grand celebration

People lighting flares as they attend a march to mark the 105th anniversary of Polish independence in Warsaw, on Saturday. REUTERS

Over 3,00,000 turn out for pro-Palestinian London rally

Reuters
LONDON

Peace plea: People demonstrating on Vauxhall Bridge during a protest in solidarity with Gaza, in London on Saturday. REUTERS

More than 3,00,000 pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched through central London on Saturday, with police arresting nearly 100 far-right counter-protesters to stop them ambushing the main rally.

Pro-Palestinian protesters could be heard chanting "From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free", a rallying cry which is viewed by many Jews as anti-semitic and a call for Israel's eradication.

Others carried banners reading "Free Palestine", "Stop the Massacre" and "Stop Bombing Gaza".

Skirmishes broke out between police and the far-right groups that had also descended on the capital as the Palestinian demonstration clashed with Armistice Day, the anniversary of the end of World War I, when Britain commemorates its war dead.

Police said there were several hundred counter-protesters on the streets of central London, and skirmishes broke out near the Cenotaph war memorial early on Saturday. Incidents continued throughout the day, with police in riot gear trying to contain protesters near the House of Commons, with footage showing police officers with batons working to control the crowds.

Assistant Commissioner Matt Twist said that the counter-protesters had seemed "intent on confrontation and violence".

Israeli drone hits vehicle in Lebanon

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

An Israeli drone struck on Saturday a vehicle in the Zahrani area, deep in Lebanese territory, official media in Lebanon *National News Agency* (*NNA*) said.

This is after weeks of skirmishes mainly limited to border areas since the Israel-Hamas war began.

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY
WORKSHOP DIVISION
No.EM/WS/TECH-07/2023/1592
Date :10.11.2023
Corrigendum-I to e-Tender Call Notice No. EM/WS-36/2023 for the work "Grant of license for a period of 05 years, for Supply, Installation, Commissioning, Operation & Maintenance of 05 nos. 100 Ton Capacity HMC's up to 10 years old from the date of 1st commissioning".
1.Last Date & time of bid submission : 27.11.2023 up to 18:00 Hrs. 2. Opening of technical Bid : 29.11.2023 at 11:00 Hrs.
Refer our website for details : https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app.
All other terms and conditions of the original tender will remain unchanged.
Executive Engineer(M),Workshop Division-I,PPA
PPA/PR/59/2023-24, Dt.11/11/23

Myanmar fight blocks China trade routes

Agence France-Presse
YANGON

A surprise offensive by Myanmar ethnic armed groups has blocked two strategically vital roads to the country's biggest trading partner China, choking cross-border commerce and denying the cash-strapped junta taxes and foreign exchange.

Fighting has raged across northern Shan state for two weeks, displacing almost 50,000 people, according to the United Nations, and posing the most serious military challenge to the generals since they seized power in 2021.

The blockage to key transport arteries is already leading to higher prices in markets and hampering the junta's ability to send reinforcements to tackle the offensive.

Goods traffic from Muse has all but halted since fighters from the Arakan Army (AA), Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) and Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) launched their offensive on October 27. Chinshwehaw, another hub on the border with China's Yunnan province, is also currently closed.

Last week, the MNDAA posted footage of its fighters raising their flag at the border gate. The junta later admitted it had lost control of the town.

Missile strike targets Kyiv as Russian train derails after 'unauthorised interference'

Associated Press
KYIV

Ukraine's Air Force said Russian troops launched 31 drones, of which 19 were shot down

Russian forces targeted Ukraine's capital, Kyiv, as part of an overnight bombardment felt across the country, local officials said on Saturday, while drones that Russian officials blamed on the Ukrainian military targeted areas around Moscow and the region of Smolensk.

A ballistic missile was shot down as it approached the Ukrainian capital, said Serhii Popko, head of the Kyiv City Military Administration. He said that no one was injured.

The Ukrainian Air Force later confirmed an Iskander-M ballistic missile was used in the attack, the first attempted missile strike on Kyiv in almost two months.

Elsewhere in Ukraine, the strikes killed four people in three regions: two in Kherson, one in Dnipropetrovsk and another in Zaporizhzhia, local officials reported.

Ukraine's air defence systems actively repelled attacks in Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Kharkiv, Poltava, Sumy, and Kirovohrad regions. The country's Air Force said Russian troops launched 31 Shahed-136/131 drones, of which 19 were shot down.

In Moscow, Russia's Defence Ministry said that its aerial strikes had hit an ammunition depot serving the 43rd mechanised brigade of Ukraine's Armed Forces near the village of Devichki in the Kyiv region. In an online statement, it said that Ukrainian drones had been shot down over the Smolensk and Moscow regions.

Meanwhile, trains carrying cargo in Russia's Ryazan region were derailed Saturday morning due to "unauthorised interference," Moscow rail operator MZHD said. Russian law enforcement said that 15 train carriages had been derailed southeast of the capital, while MZHD reported the number as 19. Several Russian media outlets also reported that an explosion was heard in the vicinity on Saturday morning, although this could not be independently verified.

Russian officials have previously blamed pro-Ukrainian saboteurs for several attacks on the country's railway system since Moscow invaded the country in February 2022, although no group has claimed responsibility for the damage.

Kyiv has not commented on Saturday's attacks.

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No. E 91918 MCC/358/2023-GAD-E4/2 10/11/2023
EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES
Online applications are invited for the post of **Senior Resident in Radiation Oncology, Surgical Oncology, Clinical Hematology & Medical Oncology, Anesthesiology & Imageology**
No. E 7341MCC/224/2022-GAD-E4/66 10/11/2023
EXISTING AND ARISING VACANCIES INSER ON CONTRACT BASIS
Online applications are invited for the post of Professor cum Vice-Principal, Assistant Professor (Medical Surgical Nursing) in MCC on contract basis.
The last date for submitting online application is, 30/11/2023, 5.00 PM .
*MCC invites applications for Non-Stipendiary Training Programs in various disciplines. Details are available in www.mcc.kerala.gov.in Sd/- Director

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Electrical (General), Construction, Chennai, Egmore
Tender Notice No. E-HQ-CN-MS-EOT-9-2023-24 Dt:10.11.2023
For and on behalf of the President of India, The Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer/ General/Construction/ Southern Railway / Egmore, Chennai - 600008 invites E-Tender for the following Work.
Name of work: ChinnaSalem - Kallakurichi New Line Work - Electrification of station buildings, Platforms, LC gate lodges, S&T Huts, Pumping arrangements, Electrification of Camp Office, Railway Staff Quarters etc in ChinnaSalem to Kallkurichi section including power supply arrangements

1	Period of completion	6 months
2	Approximate cost of work	Rs.76,30,036.63
3	Cost of tender form	Nil
4	Earnest Money deposit (EMD)	Rs. 1,52,600/-
5	Tender closing date & time	04.12.2023 at 11.00 AM
6	Tender Opening date & time	04.12.2023 at 11.30 AM

Complete details can be seen **www.ireps.gov.in.**
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Modified antifungal agent shows reduced toxicity in mice

The Hindu Bureau

A structurally modified antifungal agent has shown reduced toxicity in mice and in human kidney cells while retaining its antimicrobial properties, according to a paper published in *Nature*. The advance could increase the clinical effectiveness and safety of such treatments in fighting deadly fungal infections.

Highly toxic

Amphotericin B (AmB) is an antifungal agent produced by bacteria and has been used as a last line of defence against severe fungal infections for many decades. It achieves this by forming sponge-like aggregates that bind to a molecule known as ergosterol (which is found in bacterial and fungal cells and performs a similar function to mammalian cholesterol). This binding results in the extraction of ergosterol from the membrane, which leads to fungal cell death. Despite being effective, AmB is highly toxic in humans – particularly in renal cells. However, it is unknown whether this toxicity is due to the same mechanism that causes fungal cell death.

Analogues of AmB

Arun Maji from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, U.S. and colleagues created analogues of AmB with changes to the parts of the molecule that bind sterols, with the aim of observing how these changes affected biological activity. These analogues were tested in human kidney cells, and it was determined that renal cell death was due to the binding and extraction of cholesterol from kidney cell membranes by AmB.

The authors then designed a variant of AmB that can bind to and extract fungal ergosterol but not mammalian cholesterol, which would mitigate the toxic effects on the kidney. The resulting compound (which they named AM-2-19) was renal-sparing in human renal cells and in mice, while retaining high efficacy as an antifungal treatment. The treatment was also comparatively resilient to antimicrobial resistance.

This mechanism of action is conserved across many antifungal molecules, and the authors suggest that the technique could be used to reduce toxicity in additional drug treatments and thus increase their clinical efficacy. "Rational tuning of the dynamics of interactions between small molecules may lead to better treatments for fungal infections that still kill millions of people annually and potentially other resistance-evasive antimicrobials, including those that have recently been shown to operate through supramolecular structures that target specific lipids," the authors write.

'Universe may have resulted out of a Big Bounce'

In Einstein's theory, there are no particles of time but rather an entity called 'space time'. Mass distorts space time and the bigger ones more. Near a black hole, time passes super-fast. Someone at the edge of one, looking at earth, can see a year go

INTERVIEW

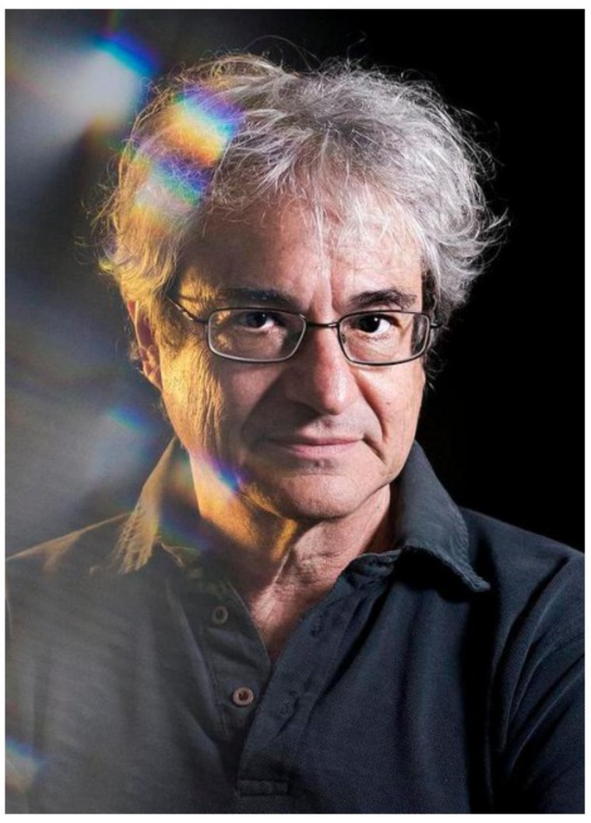
Carlo Rovelli

Jacob Koshy

Carlo Rovelli is an Italian theoretical physicist who has written several popular-science books. In his latest work, *White Holes: Inside the Horizon*, Mr. Rovelli explains the theoretical existence of white holes - the converse of black holes. The latter is believed to be the ultimate graveyard of all matter from which nothing, not even light, can escape. White holes on the other hand may beget a new universe. Though still in the realm of speculation, the math checks out.

From what I understand of your book, a white hole is like a black hole in reverse – or as you would describe it – akin to a movie running backward. Could you explain why they are significant?

We've seen black holes, taken pictures of them colliding. We see matter around them spiralling and falling inside them. But then what? If we fell into them we would be squeezed and stretched but say we resisted it, what happens next? Are whatever falls into it eaten by monsters, do they go into a different universe? One can speculate in all kinds of ways. What I describe in my book is that something very simple happens. Things just fall and fall and then they bounce back. Like a ball bouncing back up from the ground, it passes on the same path while going back up but with a reduced velocity. What interested me and my colleagues is that the bouncing out is also predicted by Einstein's theories. This possibility of things coming out is what we call a white hole. Einstein's theories however don't accommodate the possibility of a bounce, but quantum mechanics [The science and laws governing the subatomic world] does. So we use the equation of 'loop quantum gravity' - our theory of quantum mechanics and gravity together – and this suggests that a black hole itself bounces and becomes a white hole. If this is true, this implies that space and time undergo 'quantum jumps' and suggests that we have to change our understanding of what space time is. Electrons undergo quantum jumps and that is what makes all our electronic devices possible. These are quantum jumps of matter and don't do anything to space or time. But here, the shape of space itself is a quantum jump. It implies that time is no longer this uniform, local thing and performs tiny 'jumps.' – akin to a stretching rubber band.



Is it possible that our universe is emerging out of a white hole, and before this was one that was swallowed by a black hole?

Well it is the same but there are some differences. The ball that is going up after bouncing is slower and has less velocity and energy. Where's the energy gone? It dissipates as heat on the ground. The black-hole-to-white-hole transition is also similar and that's why studying the transition is complicated.

The dissipated energy of the white hole was studied by Stephen Hawking; it is his great contribution to physics. Black holes emit heat or 'Hawking radiation' and this information isn't lost but can come out from a 'white hole.'

There is a very interesting theory that a universe that will fall into a black hole will bounce and generate something very similar to the Big Bang. We don't know if it is so but it is possible. The equations that predict a black to white and a bounce are quite similar. So you and I, in this universe, might be coming out of a 'big bounce' through what looks to us like a Big Bang 14 billion years ago.

How must someone in 2023 understand time? Is it an abstract but fixed entity - like the marker between two events. Or is it something physical, made up of particles, that can stretch and squeeze, and influenced by forces such as gravity?

We've discovered something very factual; that time doesn't pass the same for everybody. It seems unusual only because we aren't used to it or don't experience it often enough. If we could travel near light speeds, it would be usual for us to go on a long trip (at those speeds) and come back to see that a younger sibling is now older than you. This is as much a fact as that the earth is round. Albert Einstein was the first to suggest that time wasn't something fixed like the ticking of a clock, but something more flexible like a rubber band. What we need to know is what makes time stretch, unevenly, in this way.? Is it something like an electric field? There are electric and magnetic fields around us all the time but we don't feel it. Similarly, there is also the 'time field' that Einstein called the gravitational field. Einstein imagined us as being trapped in a large jellyfish, which is 'time' itself. In Einstein's theory, there are no particles of time but rather an entity called 'space time'. Mass distorts space time and the bigger ones more. Near a black hole, time passes super-fast. Someone at the edge of one, looking at earth, can see a year go by in a minute. But viewed from earth, everything is going very, very slowly and that is time-distortion. It's easier to think of space and time as a single-entity. This was all Einstein, 110 years ago. But we know that is limited and we also have to account for quantum effects; even though they may be tiny. They become important inside a black hole, near the Big Bang. If we account for quantum effects, space is granular. Not continuous and smooth and this granular aspect of space is time. This however is speculation and results from what we think should happen when combining quantum mechanics and gravity. That's what I have been working on, all these years. (We think) there are 'time-steps.' There may be atoms in space but they aren't moving in space. They themselves are space.

Health benefits of functional foods

SPEAKING OF SCIENCE

D. Balasubramanian

Senior citizens like me remember the song *"Mera Nam Abdul Rahman, Pistawala Main Hun Pathan"* in the 1956 film *Bhai Bhai*, and thought that the dry fruit Pista or pistachio was an import. But Dr K.T. Achaya, in his book "Indian Food", points out that dry fruits like almonds, pistachio, cashew, walnut, apricot and pomegranate were known since the time of the sage Charaka (100 BC), the father of Ayurvedic Medicine, who pointed out their value in health and nutrition.

A recent paper by Isabela Mateus Martins and others confirm this using almonds as the queen of dry fruits. Almonds are regarded as the epitome of healthy foods because they are a rich source of protein, monounsaturated fatty acids, dietary fibre, vitamin E, riboflavin, and essential minerals as well as phytosterols and polyphenols.

Functional food

The growing body of clinical evidence suggests that almond, which can be bought in any dry fruits shop, consumption is associated with several health benefits. Other dry fruits that also offer health benefits are cashew nuts, raisins, walnuts, dates, apricots and pistachio. Besides dry fruits, 'wet fruits' such as bananas, grapes, guavas, oranges and mangoes offer health benefits, as Charaka pointed out.

Healthy food: Almonds are a rich source of protein, monounsaturated fatty acids and essential minerals. ISTOCK

Such healthy foods are also called 'functional foods', since they offer health benefits beyond their nutritional value. Some examples are oats, and millets like bajra, ragi, jowar, and soya proteins, besides the fruits. The Hyderabad-based National Institute of Nutrition (NIN) offers periodic reports on the nutritive values of Indian foods, and what a healthy adult should eat to stay healthy. Children in particular should eat a lot of dry and wet fruits, and foodgrains of nutritive value. Functional foods are defined broadly as foods that provide more than simple nutrition; they supply additional physiological benefit to the consumer. Besides what NIN has suggested, the Healthline website suggests many functional foods that should be in the daily diet. This site is well worth reading. Functional foods have ingredients that offer health benefits which extend beyond their nutritional value. Some types contain supplements or other additional ingredients designed to improve health.

A healthy diet

Given all this, what should be eating, in order to maintain a healthy daily diet?

The best would be to use not just rice or wheat in our daily diet, but include millets in the main item. And when we cook curry, using vegetables, let us use turmeric, cinnamon, ginger and garlic. Add butter and ghee, but not in excess. Curd contains several antioxidants. And drinking coffee and tea, though no more than a few cups per day, is also useful since they contain antioxidants. Children, in particular, should drink several cups of milk daily, while adults can limit it to three cups. In addition, let us eat dry and wet fruits often, at least once a week. And, if you are a non-vegetarian, you can eat eggs, fish, chicken and mutton, since they offer rich sources of minerals and fats of value.

So, have a nice and healthy meal!

SNAPSHOTS

Efficient passive radiative cooling materials developed

Two recent studies provide evidence that passive radiative cooling materials work. Passive radiative cooling approaches that use glass- and ceramic-based materials are more versatile, making them more attractive for a wide range of outdoor passive cooling applications. The microporous glass coating enables a temperature drop of about 3.5-4 degrees Celsius during daytime and night time, respectively. The ceramic composite can produce highly efficient light scattering and high thermal emission.

Nepalese researchers are studying an eye condition

Researchers in Nepal are carrying out environmental surveys and genomic sequencing to determine the cause of an eye infection that can cause children to lose their vision within days. Symptoms begin with a painless reddening and loss of pressure in one eye. Cases of seasonal hyperacute panuveitis seem to spike every two years, baffling scientists. Now researchers are racing to examine a possible link with white moths of the genus *Gazalina*, which swarm through Nepal at the end of the monsoon season.

Egg cells that lack cytoplasmic lattices become infertile

Cytoplasmic lattices seem to be storage sites for many proteins that are essential for the development of the early embryo. They enrich maternally provided proteins to prevent their premature degradation and cellular activity.

The discovery could explain why people whose eggs lack the fibres entirely are infertile. When researchers disabled the genes in mice that encode the proteins that make up the fibres, the resulting embryos were non viable.

Question Corner

Not unique

Like humans, are rats capable of imagination?

Researchers at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Janelia Research Campus have found that animals also possess an imagination. The researchers developed a novel system combining virtual reality and a brain-machine interface to probe the rat's inner thoughts. They found that like humans, animals too can control their brain activity to imagine places and objects that aren't right in front of them, using their thoughts to imagine walking to a location or moving a remote object to a specific spot. Like humans, when rodents experience places and events, specific neural activity patterns are activated in the hippocampus, an area of the brain responsible for spatial memory. The new study finds rats can voluntarily generate these same activity patterns and do so to recall remote locations distant from their current position. This ability to imagine locations away from one's current position is fundamental to remembering past events and imagining possible future scenarios.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

FAQ

How many people have died in Gaza?

From Beit Lahiya in the north to Rafah in the south, every city in the Gaza Strip has been targeted by Israeli air strikes killing more than 11,000 people. **Rebecca Rose Varghese, Vignesh Radhakrishnan and Gautam Nirmal Doshi** trace the trail of destruction

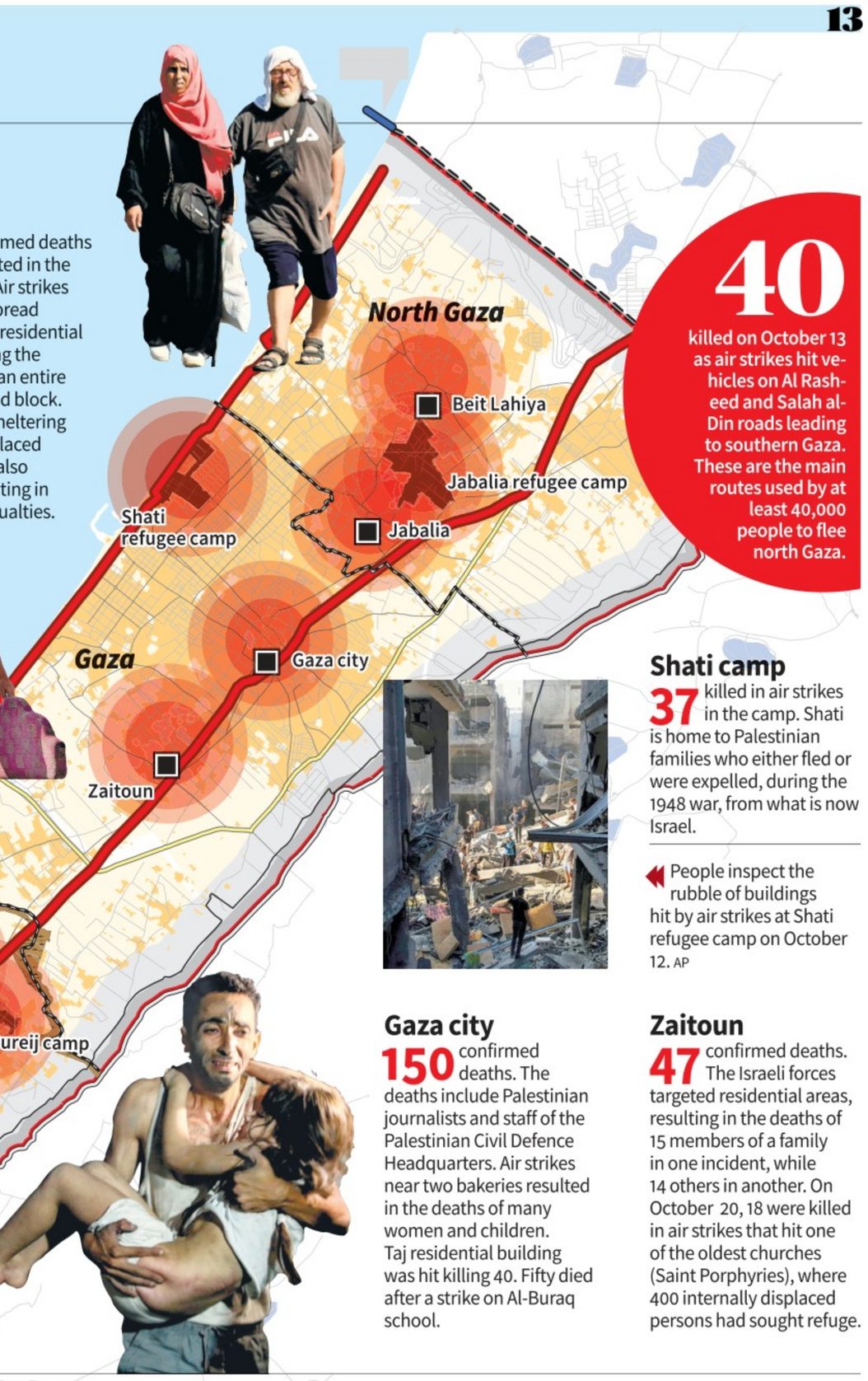
GRAPHIC: KANNAN SUNDAR

People assess the damage following an Israeli strike at the Jabalia refugee camp in north Gaza on November 1.
AFP

Beit Lahiya
10 people killed on October 9 as missiles struck a residential building. Beit Lahiya, a city in north Gaza, was among the many areas attacked in the region.

Jabalia camp
409 confirmed deaths. Air strikes destroyed entire quarters, including 30 residential buildings, and a UNRWA school sheltering displaced persons. This is the largest camp in Gaza and was the starting point of the first intifada, or uprising, against Israel's occupation of Palestinian territories in 1987.

Jabalia
181 confirmed deaths reported in the municipality. Air strikes caused widespread destruction in residential areas, including the demolition of an entire neighbourhood block. Two schools sheltering internally displaced persons were also targeted, resulting in significant casualties.



40 killed on October 13 as air strikes hit vehicles on Al Rasheed and Salah al-Din roads leading to southern Gaza. These are the main routes used by at least 40,000 people to flee north Gaza.

Shati camp
37 killed in air strikes in the camp. Shati is home to Palestinian families who either fled or were expelled, during the 1948 war, from what is now Israel.

People inspect the rubble of buildings hit by air strikes at Shati refugee camp on October 12. AP

Gaza city
150 confirmed deaths. The deaths include Palestinian journalists and staff of the Palestinian Civil Defence Headquarters. Air strikes near two bakeries resulted in the deaths of many women and children. Taj residential building was hit killing 40. Fifty died after a strike on Al-Buraq school.

Zaitoun
47 confirmed deaths. The Israeli forces targeted residential areas, resulting in the deaths of 15 members of a family in one incident, while 14 others in another. On October 20, 18 were killed in air strikes that hit one of the oldest churches (Saint Porphyries), where 400 internally displaced persons had sought refuge.

Khan Yunis
221 confirmed deaths reported. Many residential buildings and areas have been targeted by the air strikes. Many who evacuated their homes in northern Gaza to southern cities such as Khan Yunis, where Palestinians have been told to seek refuge, also died in the Israeli air strikes.

Khan Yunis camp
16 killed on October 29 as Israeli air strikes hit a house in the Khan Yunis camp. During the 1948 War, Palestinians sought refuge in the camp, with the majority coming from the Bir Saba' area. Presently, there are 88,854 registered Palestine refugees. Overcrowding was an issue even before the war.

Bani Suheila
13 confirmed deaths reported in the Bani Suheila municipality. Israeli air strikes targeted residential buildings in the area, injuring 15 civilians, while many others were stuck under the rubble.

Maghazi camp
51 killed in two incidents. One on October 17, as air strikes hit an UNRWA school, sheltering 4,000 displaced persons, and another on November 5. The dead included four children and four brothers of video-journalist Mohammed Alaloul. Several of his nieces and nephews also died.

Zawayda
39 killed. Air strikes resulted in the tragic loss of three generations of the Abu Shamala family when their house was hit.

Palestinian cameraman Mohammed Alaloul, who works for a press agency, hugs his father after his children and brothers were killed in a strike on the Maghazi camp.

Deir al-Balah
126 confirmed deaths. Air strikes targeted many residential towers resulting in significant loss of life. The central town hosts a UN shelter, where hundreds of people who escaped from Gaza City have to share one toilet and drink brackish water, which often causes illness.

Nuseirat camp
109 killed. Air strikes hit public places including a bakery, where mostly women and children queued to collect their ration of bread, a wedding hall that sheltered displaced persons and a supermarket. Strikes also hit the nine-floor 'Mohandessin Tower'.

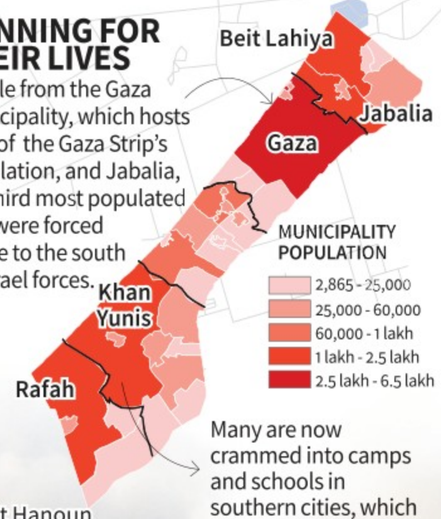
Bureij camp
70 confirmed deaths. Air strikes targeted residential buildings and an UNRWA shelter was hit too. A house near a school was also struck killing 13 people. The camp houses around 46,000, many of whom have fled northern Gaza and sought refuge in schools.

8
Number of refugee camps in Gaza, established after the mass exodus of Palestinians during the 1948 war that ensued creation of Israel. More than 7.6 lakh Palestinians either fled or were expelled from their homes in an event referred to as the "Nakba".

Rafah
112 confirmed deaths reported in the southern tip of Gaza. Air strikes targeted densely populated buildings, including charity organisations that sheltered displaced persons in the region. The UNRWA said that shelters had reached full capacity, leading to many sleeping on the streets.

Rafah city
71 deaths reported in the city. Residential areas and buildings sheltering displaced people were hit. Through the Rafah crossing — between the Gaza Strip and Egypt — the only exit not controlled by Israel, many are hoping to flee but Israeli forces continue to target this region, making escape challenging.

RUNNING FOR THEIR LIVES
People from the Gaza municipality, which hosts 30% of the Gaza Strip's population, and Jabalia, the third most populated city, were forced to flee to the south by Israel forces.

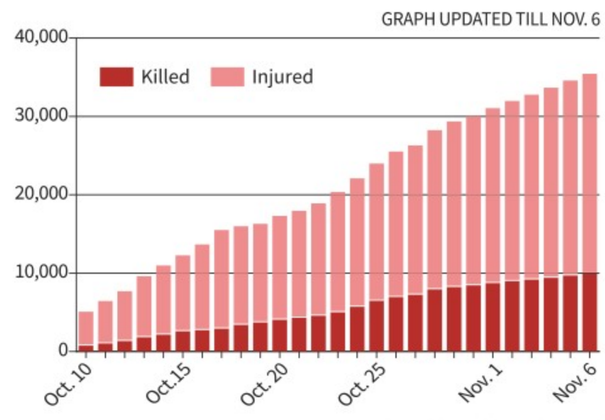


Many are now crammed into camps and schools in southern cities, which are also targeted.

HOSPITAL ATTACKS
Over one-third of hospitals and nearly two-third of primary health care centres were shut down in Gaza due to lack of facilities. Moreover, many health facilities got hit in the air strikes (highlighted in the map).

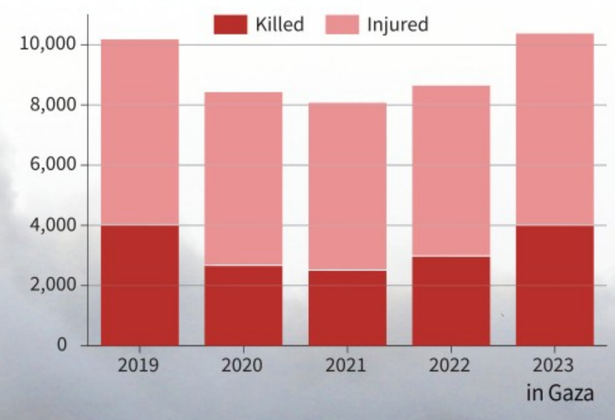
192 health workers were killed while 113 health facilities were damaged in total.

THE DEATH TOLL & INJURIES
The chart shows the day-wise cumulative death toll and injuries in the Gaza Strip since Israel began its attack. Death toll in Gaza has crossed 11,000 as of November 10, while injuries crossed 25,000. More than 2, 500 women were reported to be killed in the conflict.



1.5 million Palestinians or about 62% have been internally displaced across all five governorates of the Gaza Strip as on November 6.

CHILDREN UNDER ATTACK
The number of children reported killed in just three weeks in the Gaza Strip is more than the number killed in armed conflicts globally – across more than 20 countries – over the course of a whole year, for any of the last three years.



0.7 million internally displaced persons are sheltering in 149 UNRWA installations, with over 0.5 million sheltering in 92 facilities in the Middle Area, Khan Yunis and Rafah regions.

Tal As Sultan
15 confirmed deaths reported in the camp on November 6. The Israeli air strikes hit residential buildings in the region, killing more than a dozen people, while many were stuck under the rubble after the attack.

The death counts attributed to each city are an underestimation as only deaths of confirmed residents were mentioned.

Source: United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Flash Updates from the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), World Health Organization (WHO), Graphic News, AFP, AP, Reuters

A new sheriff in town

Nawaz Sharif

The former three-time Prime Minister, who came back from a self-imposed exile in London, has daunting tasks ahead, from tackling the corruption cases against him to steering his party to victory at February's polls despite the continued popularity of Imran Khan

Suhasini Haidar

The return of Mian Nawaz Sharif to Pakistan in October, and the relief he has received in cases against him ahead of elections on February 8 next year, prove that no one can ever be written off in Pakistani politics – as long as the military establishment is on their side. This isn't the first time Mr. Sharif, who had been Prime Minister a record three times so far (1990-93, 1997-99 and 2013-17), has come back from foreign exile to massive crowds.

He had lived in Saudi Arabia after being dismissed in a coup and charged with treason over the hijacking of Gen. Pervez Musharraf's flight in 1999, and returned to Pakistan to similar crowds in 2007. For the last few years, he lived in London, after he was disqualified in 2017 by the Supreme Court over undeclared assets that featured in the 'Panama Papers', and he was sentenced to 10 years in prison before he received medical bail.

His return on October 21 would not have been possible if the present military dispensation was not in favour of it. In a sense, Mr. Sharif, inarguably Pakistan's most senior leader today, with a career in public office spanning half a century, has received that approval now, much as he did at the start of his political journey, groomed by the regime of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq, from the late 1970s.

At the time, a 30-year Nawaz Sharif was a businessman, learning the ropes at his father's company, the Ittefaq Steel conglomerate. Mian Muhammad Sharif (known as Abbaji to all) was the stern patriarch for Nawaz Sharif, and his two younger brothers, Shehbaz and Abbas, and made most of their major life decisions and political choices for them. In his 20s, Mr. Sharif received a law degree at Punjab University in Lahore, and was known as a keen cricketer, although his professional career ended with a duck in a match playing for the Railways vs PIA (Pakistan International Airlines).

He was most remembered then for the flashy sports car that he drove around. In both their memoirs, former Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri (*Neither a Hawk Nor a Dove*) and former Indian special envoy to Pakistan Satinder Lambah (*In Pursuit of Peace*) have made a special reference to the car, a Mercedes convertible, when they wrote about meeting Mr. Sharif in the 1970s.

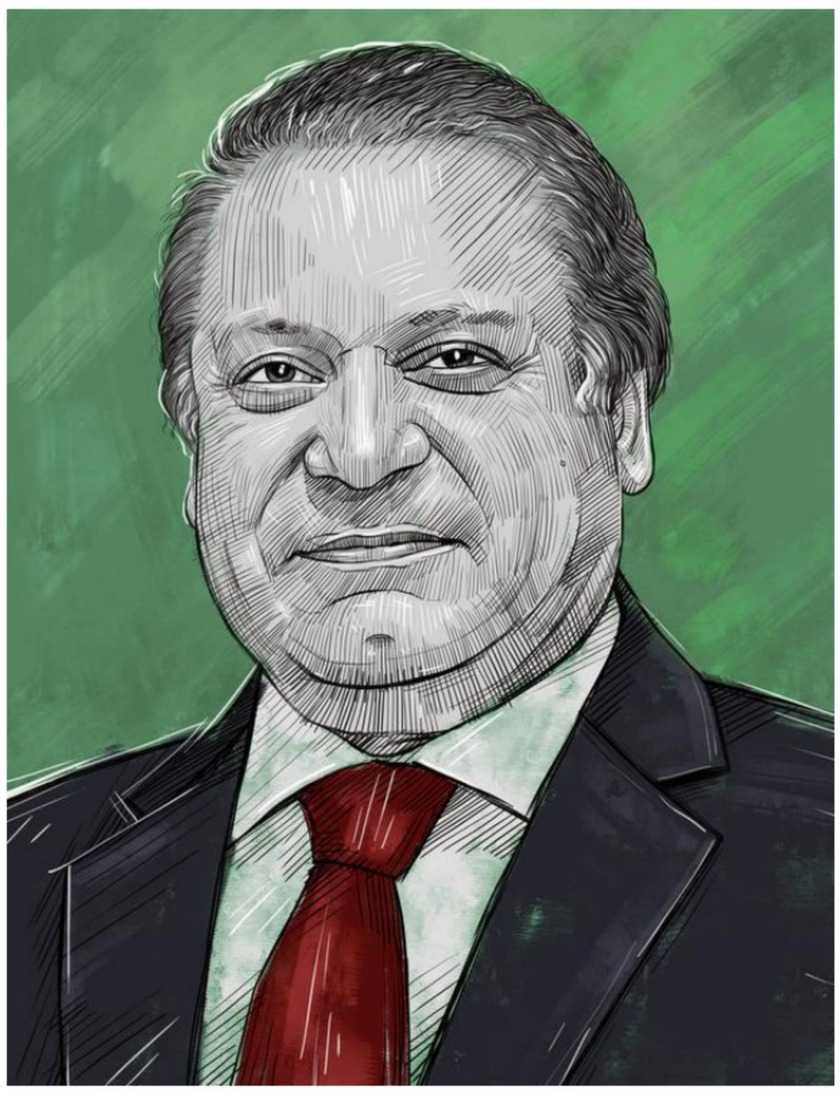
For Mr. Kasuri, Mr. Sharif was the energetic new entrant to the Pakistan Tehrik-e-Istiqlal party that opposed Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) in 1975 – the Sharif family business had been badly hit by Bhutto's decision to nationalise its steel mills. For Mr. Lambah, then a diplomat in the Indian High Commission, Mr. Sharif was the amiable and charming member of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce, who drove him from the airport to a meeting in 1978. Shortly after, Mr. Sharif was chosen by Gen. Zia as the Provincial Minister of Finance. He became Punjab Chief Minister in 1985, and the Prime Minister of Pakistan in 1990. While Mr. Sharif's life has seen many ups and downs, he still retains his youthful looks and charm, a love for luxury and for being a generous host, an interest in cricket, as well as in improving ties with India.

Political ideology

In addition, he has remained aligned to the political ideology he started out with: right-wing economics and fiscal conservatism to boost industry, and a religious conservatism that endeared him to Islamist forces unleashed by Gen. Zia, and seen in the Shariat Bill that he brought to Parliament in 1998.

This writer remembers his particular pride in building the M2 Islamabad-Lahore motorway, then the only such expressway in South Asia, which PM Benazir Bhutto halted during her tenure. While taking journalists to a rally ahead of the 1997 elections, he landed his helicopter right on the unfinished highway, vowing to complete the project (he did). Regardless of the criticism he faces for plunging Pakistan into debt, Mr. Sharif's lasting legacy is in the boost to businesses, the motorway, the metro rail project, and then in 2015, inviting the Chinese Belt and Road Initiative projects across the country.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH



"Nawaz Sharif has been consistent in wanting to focus on expanding Pakistan's economy by making it more market and investor-friendly and formulating a more realistic foreign policy, including good relations with India. But his approach to civil-military relations and working with (or against) domestic political opponents has varied," said former Pakistani Ambassador to the U.S, Husain Haqqani, who is currently a scholar at Washington DC's Hudson Institute and the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy in Abu Dhabi. "He seems to have learned a lot from both his previous stints in power and his tribulations," Mr. Haqqani told *The Hindu*.

In India, he is remembered for the many efforts he has made at reaching out, only to be reversed by the military, a terror attack or circumstances. His invitation to PM Atal Behari Vajpayee to come to Lahore seemed historic, but was followed by the Kargil war, although he denied he knew of the planned incursions at the time of the visit, blaming Gen. Musharraf for the whole debacle. He attempted to give India the MFN (most favoured nation) status, or what was called the Non-Discriminatory Market Access on Reciprocal Basis' (NDMARB) during PM Manmohan Singh's tenure, but the government changed during negotiations and the initiative flagged.

Mr. Sharif came to PM Narendra Modi's swearing in ceremony, and then received him in Lahore on his birthday on December 25, 2015 in an effort to reset ties once again, and once again, the Pathankot terror attack, and Pakistan's arrest of Kulbhushan Jadhav put paid to efforts by both sides to improve ties.

Trifecta of problems

During his 2013-17 tenure, PM Sharif and the Pakistan Muslim League (PML-Nawaz) lost much of their sheen due to his poor record in handling the trifecta of Pakistan's problems – the debt-ridden economy, the Islamist militancy that carried out one of the worst terror attacks in 2014 at the Army School in Peshawar, and the military's control of Pakistani politics, using the country's three main parties, the PML-N, the PPP and Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) to take one another down. This last factor has meant that no Prime Minister of Pakistan, including Mr. Sharif, has ever completed a full five-year term in office.

The fact that Mr. Sharif spent months in prison, with severe ailments that required surgery, and didn't give up the political fight even from London, appears to have mitigated some of the negativity around his term in office. In addition, much of the blame for mismanagement has accrued to his brother Shehbaz Sharif, who ran the country during 2022-23, after the dismissal of PM Khan.

Despite the warm welcome back, Mr. Sharif has his work cut out: to manage the corruption cases against him so that he can stand for elections in February; to steer his party to victory at polls despite the continued popularity of Mr. Khan who remains in jail facing serious charges; and to ensure a smooth transition of power within his own party, to his daughter. Maryam Nawaz, at 50, is already a decade older than Mr. Sharif was, when he first took office as Prime Minister.

THE GIST

- In India, Nawaz Sharif is remembered for the many efforts he has made at reaching out, only to be reversed by the military, a terror attack or circumstances
- His invitation to PM Atal Behari Vajpayee to come to Lahore seemed historic, but was followed by the Kargil war
- Sharif attempted to give India the MFN status during PM Manmohan Singh's tenure, but the government changed while negotiations were on and the initiative flagged
- He attended PM Narendra Modi's swearing-in ceremony, and then received him in Lahore on his birthday on December 25, 2015, but the Pathankot attack followed

A lone voice

Rashida Tlaib

The Palestinian-American Congresswoman from Michigan was censured by the U.S. House for her remarks on Israel's war on Gaza

G. Sampath

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R. KUMAR

In a rare move, the U.S. House of Representatives on November 7 passed a motion of censure against one of its members. It voted 234-188 to censure Rashida Tlaib (47), a three-term Democrat politician who represents Michigan's 12th Congressional district. Only 25 members have ever been censured in the House's history.

Ms. Tlaib is the lone Palestinian-American and one of only three Muslim lawmakers in the American Congress. Even in a House heavily polarised along party lines, the resolution, moved by the Republicans, received significant bipartisan support, as it typically does on matters concerning Israel. Twenty-two Democrats voted to censure a member of their own party, while four Republicans voted against it, on free speech grounds.

This is the second censure motion Ms. Tlaib has faced over her comments on Israel's war on Gaza. The first one, introduced a week earlier by Republican Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene, had accused Ms. Tlaib of "anti-Semitic activity, sympathising with terrorist organisations and leading an insurrection". But it was blocked, spurring the Republicans to try again.

A censure motion, which is one step below expulsion, is considered a major public reprimand – more serious than the formal admonition that fellow Democrat Ilhan Omar had received when she was removed from the House Foreign Affairs Committee for her comments on the Israel lobby in the U.S. Incidentally, both Ms. Omar and Ms. Tlaib are members of 'The Squad', an informal group of eight Democrat members of Congress known for advocating progressive policies popular with the younger generation.

Ms. Tlaib, born in Detroit to working class Palestinian immigrants, is a lawyer who entered politics in 2004 and has been a member of Congress since 2009. On the Israel-Palestine issue, she supports a one-state solution as well as the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement against the government of Israel.

Although she has publicly condemned the October 7 Hamas attack several times, and proclaimed that Israeli and Palestinian lives are of equal worth to her, her pro-Israeli critics took issue with her for sharing a video that showed crowds chanting, 'From the river to the sea, Palestine will be free'. Israel interprets this slogan as a call for the elimination of the state of Israel.

Call for freedom

Ms. Tlaib defended the slogan, clarifying that it was "an aspirational call for freedom, human rights, and peaceful coexistence". The phrase has its roots in the anti-colonial movement. Ms. Tlaib's refusal to retract, however, led to the censure motion. Incidentally, the same coinage for which Ms. Tlaib was censured figures prominently in the official charter of Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud Party, which states that "between the Sea and the Jordan [River] there will only be Israeli sovereignty".

During the debate on the censure motion, Ms. Tlaib, who still has family in the West Bank, made an emotional speech defending herself. "I will not be silenced, and I will not let you distort my words," she said. "The idea that criticising the government of Israel is anti-Semitic sets a very dangerous precedent. And it's been used to silence diverse voices speaking up for human rights across our nation."

The House resolution, however, charged Ms. Tlaib with having "defended the brutal rapes, murders, be-headings, and kidnapping – including of Americans – by Hamas" and accused her of "knowingly" spreading "the false narrative that Israel intentionally bombed the Al-Ahli Arab Hospital on October 17". It further charged her with "conduct entirely unbecoming of a Member of the House of Representatives by calling for the destruction of the state of Israel".

The vote against Ms. Tlaib comes at a time when problematic comments against Palestinians have been made by other members of Congress, including Senator Lindsey Graham, who said Gaza should be "flattened" and Republican Max Miller, who has said Israel should not have to follow any of the rules of military engagement and Gaza should be "turned into a parking lot".

Demolition man

Glenn Maxwell

Chasing Afghanistan's 291 for five, Australia was sinking at 91 for seven on Nov. 7 when Maxwell found a patient ally in Pat Cummins and hammered an unbeaten 201 to turn around the match

K.C. Vijaya Kumar

Bored shepherds clouting a taped ball with a piece of wood in ancient Britain was the genesis of cricket before it acquired sophistication and rules. In its most elementary form, it still remains what those bored lads with sheep to tend, did. Swinging a bat and sending the ball high into the skies or past a long distance.

That primordial touch still lingers in many batters, a trait that finds exposition in One Day Internationals and Twenty20s. Among the medley of batting marauders, Glenn Maxwell has carved a distinct niche. The Australian, with roots in Melbourne, plays a method that is sharpened with speed, kinetic energy, malleable limbs, especially hands, and astounding game-awareness.

After 35 summers of top-flight cricket, donning the Aussie yellow shade or varied jerseys in the Indian Premier League, Maxwell dipped into all that experience while hammering a chart-busting unbeaten 201 (128b, 21x4, 10x6) against a stunned Afghanistan at Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium on November 7. Chasing Afghanistan's 291 for five, Australia was sinking at 91 for seven when Maxwell found a patient ally in skipper Pat Cummins.

The duo's 202-run partnership for the eighth wicket, scripted a miraculous win for the Aussies and by the end of that feverish night, Mumbaikars were completely besotted with Maxwell. In World Cup history, this was akin to Kapil Dev's marvellous unbeaten 175 against Zimbabwe during the 1983 World Cup. India back then was struggling at 17 for five when the captain dished out an astounding innings, a knock that inspired the Indians to eventually win the trophy.

Maxwell was physically drained with Mumbai's lingering heat and humidity sapping his veins. Cramps set in, often he was like a cat on a hot tin roof, twitching and collapsing, and at times lying flat on the ground. This was similar to what the late Dean Jones did while scoring his 210 against India in the famous tied Test in Chennai during the 1986 tour. With the southern metro's heat deflating him, Jones threw up, lost control of his bladder, but soldiered on.

There is another thread that binds Maxwell and Jones as the latter was one of the original ODI specialists. Jones was the kind, who would dance down and lash fast bowlers over covers, run hard between the wickets, and field with tigerish zeal. These are attributes that enrich Maxwell; additionally, he bowls off-spin too and is a good all-rounder.

Master of shots

Australia has one of the finest cricketing systems in the world and players emerge as strong blokes, willing to quell raging fires. It is famously said that the Waugh twins – Steve and Mark – were ultra-competitive in backyard cricket while sibling love was nudged to the side. Having grown through such a first-class structure, Maxwell remains a tough cookie.

What distinguishes him is his penchant to create angles where none exist. South African AB de Villiers did this before, India's Suryakumar Yadav does this now, and Maxwell remains a master. To shuffle across the crease and tip one over the head of the fielder at short fine-leg, or do a reverse-ramp shot and flummox the opposition captain, or to just stand and tee off like a golfer, drilling deep and wide, all these shots emerged like a fusillade from Maxwell's bat. Later, he spoke about how playing golf helped him fine-tune these strokes. How do you strike past a tree on the course? Obviously innovate and flex your wrists. With his legs in a shambles, Maxwell stood rooted to the crease and just relied on his hand-eye co-ordination to demolish the Afghan bowlers. He may look like a messiah now but he is fragile too. A few years back, he took a 'mental health' break, coping with the dark fog that crept into his mind.

It should also be noted that Maxwell never prospered in Tests and has just played seven games. Unlike David Warner, who seamlessly flits between Tests and abridged cricket, Maxwell hasn't found that switch yet. But with strike rates of 127.06 and 150.97, respectively, in ODIs and T20Is, Maxwell is the reigning deity of shock and awe on the cricketing turf. When he prospers, Australia soars high past bruised rivals.

INBRIEF

BSE Q2 net jumps fourfold to ₹118 crore, revenue rises 53%

BSE has reported a four-fold jump in net profit to ₹118.4 crore for the quarter ended September 2023. The exchange had posted a net profit of ₹29.4 crore in the year-earlier period, BSE said in a statement. The bourse's revenue rose 53% to a record ₹367 crore from ₹240 crore in the year-earlier period. The exchange's average daily turnover in the equity segment increased to ₹5,922 crore from ₹4,740 crore in the three months ended September 2022. PTI

Shriram Properties Q2 sales bookings rise 40% to ₹608 cr.

Realty firm Shriram Properties Ltd. has clocked 40% growth in sales bookings to ₹608 crore in the second quarter of this fiscal year on better demand for its housing projects. Sales bookings stood at ₹435 crore in the year-earlier period. According to an investor presentation, Shriram Properties' sales bookings grew 14% to 1.15 million sq. ft during the July-September period of this fiscal from ₹1.01 million sq. ft in the corresponding period of the previous year. PTI

Fall in prices brings glitter to gold just ahead of Dhanteras

The decline in gold prices – up to ₹1,130 per 10 gram since the beginning of this month – has lifted the sentiment that can revive the so-far-sluggish jewellery sales and step up demand for digital gold this Dhanteras. Gold prices fell to ₹60,240 per 10 gram on Friday from ₹61,370 on October 31 as concerns over the U.S. slipping into a recession eased on positive economic data. Digital gold, especially in the form of ETFs, has had huge traction.

'Flight traffic to smaller cities soars'

Bengaluru International Airport witnesses a rapid proliferation of travel to domestic destinations since COVID-19, spurred by a demand for travel to smaller cities; the share of non-metro travellers grew from 25% before the pandemic to 58% now

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The country's third-largest airport in terms of passenger traffic, the Bengaluru International Airport, has seen a rapid proliferation of travel to domestic destinations since COVID-19, spurred by a demand for travel to smaller cities.

Before COVID-19, passengers travelling to metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Chennai accounted for 75% of total passengers, which has now shrunk to 42% as the share of non-metro travellers grew from 25% to 58%, explains the airport's Chief Operating Officer, Satyaki Raghunath in an interview to *The Hindu*. The airport recorded 28.12 million domestic passengers out of a total 31.91 passengers in the financial year 2022-2023.

The demand from these travellers during COVID-19, when train travel was no longer a preferred choice for many due to health safety protocols, also often led to airlines opening new routes and later providing more frequencies on them.

"So, we have gone from 54 domestic destinations to 74. We are now connected to Jamnagar (Gujarat), Jaisalmer (Rajasthan), Bareilly (Uttar Pradesh), Agartala (Tripura), Jharsuguda (Odisha). Five years back you couldn't have imagined that there would be a direct flight to these cities from Bengaluru," says Mr. Raghunath.

The number of domestic passengers at the airport is now at 105% of pre-COVID levels. The number of international passengers last fiscal (3.78 million) though lagged behind the pre-COVID level by around 10% as foreign carriers are yet to restore capacity to the levels seen in 2019-2020 due to supply-chain constraints and the Russia-Ukraine conflict which has closed a part of the European skies. However, by the end of this fiscal the airport is expected to exceed the pre-COVID passenger number of 33 million, the top executive said.

New destinations

Bengaluru airport sees a sea change in the nature of passenger traffic with the rise of travel to non-metro destinations

- The airport recorded 28.12 million domestic passengers out of a total 31.91 passengers in FY2022-2023
- The share of passengers travelling to metropolitan cities has dropped from 75% pre-COVID to just 42% now
- The number of domestic passengers is now at 105% of the pre-COVID level, but international traffic still lags

Festive season keeps logistics, warehousing sectors abuzz

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Logistics movements and demand for warehousing have seen a significant spike in the months of September, October and until the first week of November to support the soaring festive season shopping volumes in the country.

Market observers said the logistics and warehousing segment reported a 50-60% increase in traffic and storage volumes in this festive period compared with the same time last year.

Merchandise segments, too, grew substantially and some categories grew even 100% over last year. "As the festive season unfolded, the demand for warehousing solutions was reaching unprecedented levels, with sectors such as e-commerce, FMCD, and CDE significantly ramping up their inventory to meet the peak-season demand," said Manikandan Ramachandran, COO, TVS Industrial & Logistics Parks.

The convenience of online shopping and the exclusive deals have a significant impact on shifting consumer behaviour specifically during the festive season, which clearly leads to high volume of logistics traffic, observed Kami Viswanathan, President of FedEx Express Middle East, Indian subcontinent, and Africa.

Although festive peak months start from October, the preparations typically begin as early as July and continue through January to cover year-end and new year gifting, said Ishaan Gupta, Joint MD, Gateway Distriparks, a part of Snowman Logistics.

Hospitality firm Tamara eyes doubling capacity

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Having crossed the 1,000-room milestone globally, Tamara Leisure Experience Pvt. Ltd. (Tamara) is looking to double the number of keys in the domestic market to over 500 in four months, said a top official.

"We recently crossed 1,000 keys [rooms] with the inauguration of our latest property in Coimbatore," CEO Shruti Shibulal said during an interaction.

The Bengaluru-based hospitality firm has more than tripled its capacity in five years, and aims to expand mainly in the Southern States.

O By Tamara in Coimbatore, its latest addition with 141 rooms, will be followed by expansions in Thiruvananthapuram, Kumbakonam and Guruvayur.

Tamara began operations in Madikeri, Karnataka in 2018, followed by Kodaikanal, Kerala and Germany.

"We follow an asset light concept. The expansion will be done through acquisition or management contracts," Ms. Shibulal said.

Moody's turns negative on U.S. rating, irks Washington

Reuters

Moody's lowered its outlook on the U.S. credit rating to 'negative' from 'stable' citing large fiscal deficits and a decline in debt affordability, a move that drew criticism from President Biden's administration. The move follows a downgrade of the sovereign by major agencies, Fitch, this year, and S&P, which has maintained a AA+ rating since 2011.

Federal spending and political polarisation have been a rising concern for investors, contributing to a selloff that took U.S. government bond prices to their lowest in 16 years.

"It is hard to disagree with the rationale, with no reasonable expectation for fiscal consolidation any time soon," said Christopher Hodge, chief economist for the U.S. at Natixis. Moody's in a statement blamed "continued political polarisation" in Congress raising the risk that lawmakers will not be able to reach consensus on a fiscal plan.

Republicans, who control the House of Representatives, expect to release a stopgap spending measure aimed at averting a partial government shutdown as funding for federal agencies expires next Friday.

"We disagree with the shift to a negative outlook. The American economy remains strong, and Treasury securities are the world's preeminent safe and liquid asset," Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo said in a statement.

ONGC Q2 net profit drops 20% on lower oil prices, output

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

State-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) reported a 20% drop in September quarter net profit on decline in oil prices and lower output.

The company reported a net profit of ₹10,216 crore in July-September (second quarter of current 2023-24 fiscal year), compared to ₹12,826 crore earned in the same period last year, a statement said.

This is the second consecutive quarter of decline in net profit for ONGC, India's top crude oil and natural gas producer. The firm had reported a 34% drop in April-June profit.

ONGC earned $84.84 for every barrel of crude oil it produced and sold from nomination fields against a gross realisation of $95.50 per barrel last year and $76.49 in the preceding quarter.

Oil prices globally had risen sharply in April-June 2022, after Russia's invasion of Ukraine led to uncertainties over supply and demand. But rates have cooled this year.

Centre to unveil PM-Kisan Bhai to end traders' monopoly

Prabhudatta Mishra
NEW DELHI

Kisan Bhai aims to empower farmers by helping them retain and store their crops post-harvest

To help small and marginal farmers who do not have the capacity to hold their produce in warehouses and wait for better prices, the Centre plans to incentivise them under a scheme likely to be named PM-Kisan Bhai (Bhandaran Incentive) scheme.

The Agriculture Ministry's 10-day deadline to receive feedback ended on Friday after a concept paper was published, and the scheme is likely to be rolled out by December-end.

This is seen as an attempt to break the monopoly of traders in deciding crop prices. Kisan Bhai is expected to empower farmers, allowing them to retain their crops for a minimum of three months post-harvest. This initiative grants farmers the autonomy to decide when to sell, in contrast to the current practice where most crops are sold around harvest.

(The writer is with The Hindu businessline)

Academia-industry tie-ups are critical in fast-changing tech landscape: Capgemini

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

Clifton Menezes

There exists a crisis in Indian education; educational institutions cannot operate in isolation anymore in a highly converging and rapidly changing technology landscape, cautioned Clifton Menezes, India Head of Group Portfolio at Capgemini.

"At least four academics recently approached us to explore the possibility of redrawing their syllabi to keep their institutions updated with the changing requirements of businesses globally," said Mr. Menezes, who is responsible for Capgemini's go-to-market transition and digitisation technologies.

"Educators and educational institutions are increasingly realising that corporations like Capgemini that focus on innovation, and do extensive research around cutting-edge technologies, will be able to help them change and fit the industry requirements," he told *The Hindu*.

"The faculty in India is good, but the problem is several are not up to date with fast-moving technological changes that are taking place. There is a lag," he said.

"The industry-academia collaborations are going to be a win-win for all and academia can not operate in isolation any more," Mr. Menezes emphasised.

Capgemini had already collaborated with many IITs, universities and start-ups in the country in Quantum Computing, AI, Design and Edge Computing.

"Capgemini has been inclined towards innovation and that makes us attractive to academia globally," he said.

However, Mr. Menezes said, IT "need not always mean doing complex things". For instance, the French tech firm is helping to digitally transform a large postal organisation in the U.K.

"With Capgemini's intervention, the company began partnering with large e-tailers like Ebay and Amazon as the postal firm knows the last-mile like nobody else in U.K. and Europe," he added.

With Capgemini's help the postal firm is now able to roll out products in weeks instead of months.

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XXIV ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-6)
P & S.C NO. 614 /2023

BETWEEN : 1. MR. ANKITH H. R, aged about 43 years, S/o late Sri. H.R.Raje Gowda, No.413, 1st Cross, Near ISEC, Teachers Colony, Bangalore - 560072
2. MR. AMSHITH H. R , aged about 40 years, S/o late Sri. H.R.Raje Gowda, No.413, 1st Cross, Near ISEC, Teachers Colony, Bangalore - 560072. **...PETITIONERS**
AND : NIL ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas the above named petitioners have filed a petition, seeking relief to issue succession Certificate from this Hon'ble Court under section 372 of Indian Succession Act, 1925 in their favour in order to enable them to get the benefits belonging to their father late **Sri. H.R.Rajegowda** who died on 29.04.2020. The assets and liabilities of the deceased H R Rajegowda are stated in the schedule hereunder.

Any interested persons who have objections to the said claim of petitioners, shall appear before the Hon'ble XXIV ADDL. CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH-6) **on 13.12.2023 at 11.00 a.m** to show cause against the claim of petitioners failing wherein the appearance will be heard and declared as exparte.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Rs.5,32,864/- (Rupees Five Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Sixty Four Only) in Savings Bank Account of Late Sri. H.R. Rajegowda bearing Account No. 899601000008584 in Bank of Baroda, West of Chord Road Branch.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court this the **07-11-2023.**

By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, City Court, Bangalore.

Advocate for Petitioners
Rakesh S.N.
No.48, 1st Floor, 5th Main, Jaibheemanagar, BTM Layout 1st Stage, Bangalore - 560068.

FORM NO. CAA. 2
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL BENGALURU BENCH

JOINT COMPANY APPLICATION (CAA) NO. 31/BB/2023
IN THE MATTER OF SECTIONS 230 TO 232 AND OTHER APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE COMPANIES ACT, 2013
AND
IN THE MATTER OF SCHEME OF ARRANGEMENT
BETWEEN
REVENTICS PRIVATE LIMITED
("Transferor Company No. 1/Applicant No. 1")
AND
TECHNOSOFT GLOBAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
("Transferor Company No. 2/Applicant No. 2")
AND
VASTA BIO-INFORMATICS PRIVATE LIMITED
("Transferor Company No. 3/Applicant No. 3")
AND
OMEGA HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
("Transferee Company/Applicant No. 4")
AND
THEIR RESPECTIVE SHAREHOLDERS

BETWEEN:

1.REVENTICS PRIVATE LIMITED
A Company incorporated under Companies Act, 2013 having its registered office at Nagarjuna Silver Crest Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road Murugeshpalya, Bengaluru – 560 017 Karnataka, India
...APPLICANT NO.1

2.TECHNOSOFT GLOBAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
A Company incorporated under Companies Act, 1956 having its registered office at Nagarjuna Silver Crest Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road Murugeshpalya, Bengaluru – 560 017 Karnataka, India
...APPLICANT NO.2

3.VASTA BIO-INFORMATICS PRIVATE LIMITED
A Company incorporated under Companies Act, 2013 having its registered office at Nagarjuna Silver Crest Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road Murugeshpalya, Bengaluru – 560 017 Karnataka, India
...APPLICANT NO.3

4.OMEGA HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED
A Company incorporated under Companies Act, 1956 having its registered office at Nagarjuna Silver Crest Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road Murugeshpalya, Bengaluru – 560 017 Karnataka, India
...APPLICANT NO.4

AND

NIL .....RESPONDENT

NOTICE AND ADVERTISEMENT OF THE MEETING OF UNSECURED CREDITORS OF THE APPLICANTS

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated 31st October 2023, the National Company Law Tribunal, Bengaluru Bench, has directed a meeting to be held and convened of the Unsecured Creditors of Reventics Private Limited, Technosoft Global Services Private Limited, Vasta Bio-Informatics Private Limited and Omega Healthcare Management Services Private Limited for the purpose of considering, and if thought fit, approving with or without modification, the Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the Applicants and its respective Creditors.

REVENTICS PRIVATE LIMITED (APPLICANT NO. 1)
In pursuance of the said Order, and as directed therein, Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Unsecured Creditors, Applicant No. 1 will be held on 15th December, 2023 at 11 am at Nagarjuna Silver Crest, Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore – 560017, Karnataka, India at which time the Unsecured are requested to attend.

TECHNOSOFT GLOBAL SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED (APPLICANT NO. 2)
In pursuance of the said Order, and as directed therein, Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Unsecured Creditors, Applicant No. 2 will be held on 15th December, 2023 at 11.30 am at Nagarjuna Silver Crest, Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore – 560017, Karnataka, India at which time the Unsecured Creditors are requested to attend.

VASTA BIO-INFORMATICS PRIVATE LIMITED (APPLICANT NO. 3)
In pursuance of the said Order, and as directed therein, Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Unsecured Creditors, Applicant No. 3 will be held on 15th December, 2023 at 12 noon am at Nagarjuna Silver Crest, Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore – 560017, Karnataka, India at which time the Unsecured Creditors are requested to attend.

OMEGA HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED (APPLICANT NO. 4)
In pursuance of the said Order, and as directed therein, Notice is hereby given that the meeting of the Unsecured Creditors, Applicant No. 4 will be held on 15th December, 2023 at 12.30 pm at Nagarjuna Silver Crest, Corporation No. 33, NAL Wind Tunnel Road, Murugeshpalya, Bangalore – 560017, Karnataka, India at which time the Unsecured Creditors are requested to attend.

The Tribunal for all the above meetings has appointed Shri. Chandramouli Prabhakar, Advocate, as the Chairman and Shri. Ramesh Satyanarayana, PCS as Scrutinizer of the said meeting. The Scheme, if approved by the meetings, will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Tribunal.

Copies of the Scheme of Arrangement and of the explanatory statement under Section 230 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 ("the Act") can be obtained free of charge at the registered office of Applicants or at the office of its Advocates given below. Persons entitled to attend and vote at the meeting of the Unsecured Creditors, respectively may vote in person or by proxy, provided that all proxies in the prescribed form are deposited at the registered office of the respective Applicants not later than 48 hours before the meetings. Forms of Proxy can also be obtained free of charge at the registered office of the Applicants.

Dated:12th November, 2023

Advocate for the Applicants
UDAY SHANKAR ASSOCIATES
Advocates & Legal Counsels
Fortune Chambers, 1st Floor, No. 8, Lalbagh Road, Richmond Circle
Bengaluru - 560 027, Ph: +080 4141 0007/0006

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MAKING IT EASY

Rohit has led by example both on and off the field, says Dravid

K. MURALI KUMAR

Rohit Sharma has come to the fore during the current World Cup and India coach Rahul Dravid highlighted this: "Rohit has certainly been a leader and has led by example both on and off the field. Some of the starts that he has given us and the way he has cracked open games has actually made some games look easy in the end."

PLAYING HIS PART

What stood out about Shreyas is his temperament: Dravid

K. MURALI KUMAR

In a batting line-up lit up by Rohit and Kohli, others like Shreyas too have shone. "From the time I have seen Shreyas with India-A, what stood out about him is his temperament," said India head coach Dravid. What about some issues with his pull shot? "Everyone will have areas they need to work on, there is no complete batter."

NEXT LEVEL

Playing in the IPL would be a great experience for the Dutch: Cook

K. MURALI KUMAR

Ryan Cook, Netherlands head coach, wants his players to take part in the IPL. "It would be a great experience for them, and that would be sort of the next level. But, you know, even just any of the other leagues as well would be welcomed from the players' point of view and obviously the experience that they can gain in that space."

GREAT OCCASION

'Looking forward to testing our skills against the table-toppers'

K. MURALI KUMAR

Netherlands head coach Cook is stoked to take on India on the auspicious occasion of Diwali. "We are looking forward to the game. It'll be a great occasion on Diwali at the Chinnaswamy Stadium. There is lots of excitement around that for our team. And I'm really looking forward to testing our skills against the table-toppers."

Consistent India looks to make it nine out of nine

Men in Blue expected to add to the good cheer associated with Diwali festivities; Netherlands, despite wins over South Africa and Bangladesh, has largely played second fiddle to the others

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

More than a month since their first game against Australia at Chennai, the Men in Blue traversed the length and breadth of India to finally reach Bengaluru in time for Sunday's World Cup clash against the Netherlands here at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

Criss-crossing the country and adapting to different terrain ranging from the Himalayas to the coastal plains, Rohit Sharma's men have remained the most consistent outfit so far in this premier championship.

India's final league game during the Diwali weekend, will seamlessly blend into the imminent knockout semifinals before the summit clash at Ahmedabad on November 19. For now, the players are back at a venue, which is home to coach Rahul Dravid and his wards K.L. Rahul and Prasidh Krishna. Meanwhile, Virat Kohli has his Royal Challengers Bangalore connect and for the rest of the squad, this ground and the adjacent National Cricket Academy are familiar territory thanks to the regular preparatory camps that are held here.

Electric starts

The host is expected to add to the good cheer associated with Diwali festivities. So far the Indian team has dished out fireworks all through the tournament, with its batters and bowlers clicking in unison. Rohit's electric starts have found middle-order vindication with Kohli being the prime mover.

The fast bowling troika of Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj and Mohammed Shami have been relentless, while spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Ravindra Jadeja have spun a tight web. Eight wins on the trot is a tribute to a playing eleven that has ticked most boxes.

Wankhede waiting

Since the triumphant 2011 edition, India has always sailed into the last-four stage.

The cup has proved elusive after M.S. Dhoni held it aloft on a feverish night at the Wankhede Stadium but there is no mistaking India's overall consistency. While a semifinal clash against New Zealand at Mumbai on Wednesday is set in stone, India would rather focus on getting past the Netherlands and ensuring that all its vital cogs are in order.

The ground, with its penchant for runs, should stay true while the lurking clouds are expected to steer clear. Saturday was all about blue skies, a bright sun and cool air, and this trend is expected to continue. Meanwhile, the Netherlands, despite toppling South Africa and Bangladesh, has largely played second fiddle to others.

Seamer Bas de Leede has grabbed 14 wickets, but his other comrades have largely been mute. Spinner Roelof van der Merwe, having played for RCB in the past, is clued into the conditions but more needs to be done by the troops under Scott Edwards, if the Netherlands hopes to embarrass a busy juggernaut like India.

The teams (from):

India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul (wk), Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav and Prasidh Krishna.

Netherlands: Scott Edwards (captain & wk), Vikramjit Singh, Teja Nidamanuru, Max O'Dowd, Sybrand Engelbrecht, Colin Ackermann, Bas de Leede, Saqib Zulfiqar, Wesley Barresi, Noah Croes, Roelof van der Merwe, Logan van Beek, Shariz Ahmad, Ryan Klein, Aryan Dutt and Paul van Meekeren.

Umpires: Michael Gough and Chris Gaffaney; **Third umpire:** Joel Wilson; **Match referee:** Richie Richardson.

Match starts at 2 p.m.

Today's match

INDIA vs. NETHERLANDS
Bengaluru
2 p.m.

EYE ON THE SKY
High 28°C
Low 20°C
Partly cloudy
Source: IMD

H2H IN ODIs

	M	India	Netherlands
Overall	2	2	0
In India	1	1	0
In World Cup	2	2	0

2003: India won by 68 runs (group stage), Paarl

2011: India won by five wickets (group stage), Delhi

Opening salvo: Gill will hope to make it count in a ground known for big totals. K. MURALI KUMAR

There is no real right and wrong, feels Dravid on the Mathews Timed Out episode against Bangladesh

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

The Timed Out episode involving Shakib Al Hasan and Angelo Mathews surfaced during the press conference that Rahul Dravid addressed at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Saturday.

The India coach was clear in his perspective and said: "Everyone thinks differently. We are all unique creatures.

"There is no real right and wrong. You can go and debate both the situations. You can debate whether we have to stick to the rules. Or you have to sometimes give some leeway for the spirit of cricket.

"There will be people on both sides and it is fine to have these differences. When someone wants to take the letter of the rule to the last nth degree, he is just following the rules. You might not do it yourself but you can't blame somebody for following the rule."

Coach Dravid insists on the need to maintain intensity in final league game

Men who matter: While Rohit was busy honing his batting skills, Dravid obliged the fans seeking selfies and autographs. K. MURALI KUMAR

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
BENGALURU

Returning to his backyard, Rahul Dravid strode into the press conference room, nursing a warm beverage in a cup.

The India coach was quick to stress on maintaining the intensity as his wards take on the Netherlands here during Sunday's World Cup game.

"We have done well and maintained high standards. We need to continue that. This is our ninth venue, and a great venue, even if I say so," the Bengalurean quipped here on Saturday. Dravid also praised the Netherlands: "We are impressed with the way they have played in this tournament. I know how difficult it is for associate teams to reach this level."

Being the final league clash, any temptation to rest some players? "We had six days off from the last game. We are well rested and the guys are in good shape. That's all I will say without giving anything away. You can make your inferences," Dravid said. He also mentioned that the team is comfortable either way, taking first strike or launching a chase.

Crucial knocks

The coach made a special mention about how the middle-order shaped up. "How well your middle-order performs in challenging situations, will probably decide how well you do. While our top-order performed exceptionally well, our middle-order also played a very critical role. Some of those 30s and 40s are critical knocks. Shreyas, K.L. (Rahul), Suryakumar Yadav and Jaddu (Ravindra Jadeja) have all contributed," Dravid explained.

India stepped into the World Cup with a few players coming back from injuries and Dravid drew heart from the way they performed even if Hardik Pandya again got hurt. "It is great to have these guys fit and ready. Our margins were tight, we had some contingency plans. It is a tribute to their hard work and the efforts of the NCA," the coach said.

I don't see India taking the foot off the pedal: Netherlands coach Cook

Ayan Acharya
BENGALURU

Netherlands head coach Ryan Cook wants his team to be consistent for "longer periods" after an impressive ODI World Cup 2023 campaign here. "I think the main lesson that we've learned is that our team needs to be better for longer, whether that's with the bat or with the ball," Cook said on the eve of his team's last league game against India.

Period of play

"I think we've shown glimpses of great periods of play. Some of those periods have been 20, 30, 40 overs long, but an ODI is 100 overs long, and you have to play cricket for a long period of time, and you have to play it really well."

The Netherlands' ambitions of qualifying for the 2025 Champions Trophy with a top-eight finish will likely rest on beating India on Sunday. However, Cook was quick to temper expectations.

Big motivation: Netherlands' ambitions of qualifying for the 2025 Champions Trophy by finishing in the top eight largely rests on the result against India. K. MURALI KUMAR

"I don't think there's any opportune moment to play them. Obviously, they're playing really good cricket at the moment. They've won all the matches. I don't see them taking their foot off the pedal in any way. I'm sure they'll be putting their best foot forward, and we would obviously be showing them the same courtesy as well," he said.

The Netherlands has four wins in 29 matches at 50-over World Cups, and it beat two full ICC members, South Africa and Bangladesh, in this edition. As the head coach of the only associate nation at this World Cup, Cook hopes this performance will elevate the profile of the sport back home.

"It's reaching a greater audience now, and a lot more people are talking about it within the Netherlands," Cook said.

"Lots of people are sending pictures and messages about having watch parties, which maybe only contain 50 or 60 people in comparison to the IPL fan boxes that I see here in April and May, which are packed, but that's as big as it gets there. Hopefully, it will grow."

Nothing goes Pakistan's way right from the toss; England seals CT berth

Babar's men fall woefully short against a penetrative attack after Buttler's team bats first and posts a huge total; Stokes shines yet again

ODI WORLD CUP

N. Sudarshan
KOLKATA

The outcome of the Pakistan-England game at the Eden Gardens on Saturday had ceased to matter even before a ball was bowled. Pakistan's only chance of making the World Cup semifinals was to bat first and win by 287 runs. The moment the coin flipped in England's favour, and Jos Buttler chose to bat, it was curtains.

The tie did not prosper as a contest either. England scored 337 for nine on the slow, abrasive surface as Ben Stokes, in what was perhaps his final ODI innings, made the 37,666-strong holiday audience bounce by scripting a fine 84 (76b, 11x4, 2x6).

Pakistan fell woefully short, losing by 93 runs, as England sealed Champions Trophy qualification.

When Babar Azam was batting, Pakistan looked very much in the hunt. But once the skipper fell in the 14th over after a sweet 38 (45b, 6x4), it all fizzled out.

The middle-order collapse against Adil Rashid and Moeen Ali was particularly glaring. Once a land of great spinners and spin-playing batters, present-day Pakistan is neither.

It has been evident in the way its tweakers have bowled all tournament. At the Eden, it manifested in the way Mohammad Rizwan, Saud Shakeel, Iftikhar Ahmed and Shadab Khan fell – charging down the track mindlessly, sweeping thoughtlessly and failing completely in picking straighter deliveries and googlies.

The afternoon's proceedings, though, were in stark contrast as Stokes and Joe Root (60, 72b, 4x4) took centre-stage, building on a 82-run stand for the opening wicket between Jonny Bairstow (59, 61b, 7x4, 1x6) and Dawid Malan (31, 39b, 5x4), with a 132-run partnership for the third wicket.

Stokes was the more expressive, capitalising fully on an early let off by Shaheen Afridi, who grassed a simple caught-and-bowled chance.

The 32-year-old smashed the left-armer straight down, past mid-on, over mid-wicket and beyond point in a matter of two overs to send him out of the attack. Then came the hoick over mid-wicket off Mohammad Wasim and the falling reverse-swept six off Agha Salman, his stand-out shots.

At one point, Root seemed so bored at the other end that he tried his own reverse ramp. But classical batsmanship is his forte and he showcased that with back-to-back fours to the square fence.

Smash hit: Stokes' pyrotechnics piloted England to a total that proved beyond Pakistan's reach. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Breezy knocks

Afridi did have Stokes' measure, uprooting his off-stump with a ball that swung back. But breezy knocks from Jos Buttler (27, 18b, 3x4, 1x6) and Harry Brook (30, 17b, 2x4, 2x6) swelled England's total.

Pakistan's below-par fielding stuck out. Nothing it did really worked. It was a match that was emblematic of its World Cup campaign.

SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND

Dawid Malan c Rizwan b Iftikhar 31 *(39b, 5x4)*, Jonny Bairstow c Salman b Rauf 59 *(61b, 7x4, 1x6)*, Joe Root c Shadab b Afridi 60 *(72b, 4x4)*, Ben Stokes b Afridi 84 *(76b, 11x4, 2x6)*, Jos Buttler run out 27 *(18b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Harry Brook c Afridi b Rauf 30 *(17b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Moeen Ali b Rauf 8 *(6b, 1x6)*, Chris Woakes (not out) 4 *(4b, 1x4)*, David Willey c Iftikhar b Wasim 15 *(5b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Gus Atkinson b Wasim 0 *(1b)*, Adil Rashid (not out) 0 *(1b)*; Extras (b-5, lb-2, w-12): 19; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs): 337.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-82 (Malan, 13.3 overs), 2-108 (Bairstow, 18.2), 3-240 (Stokes, 40.1), 4-257 (Root, 42.2), 5-302 (Brook, 46.4), 6-308 (Buttler, 47.2), 7-317 (Moeen, 48.4), 8-336 (Willey, 49.4), 9-336 (Atkinson, 49.5).

PAKISTAN BOWLING

Afridi 10-1-72-2, Rauf 10-0-64-3, Iftikhar 7-0-38-1, Wasim 10-0-74-2, Shadab 10-0-57-0, Salman 3-0-25-0.

PAKISTAN

Abdullah Shafique lbw b Willey 0 *(2b)*, Fakhar Zaman c Stokes b Willey 1 *(9b)*, Babar Azam c Adil Rashid b Atkinson 38 *(45b, 6x4)*, Mohammad Rizwan b Moeen 36 *(51b, 2x4)*, Saud Shakeel b Adil Rashid 29 *(37b, 4x4)*, Agha Salman c Stokes b Willey 51 *(45b, 6x4, 1x6)*, Iftikhar Ahmed c Malan b Moeen 3 *(5b)*, Shadab Khan b Adil Rashid 4 *(7b, 1x4)*, Shaheen Shah Afridi lbw b Atkinson 25 *(23b, 3x4, 1x6)*, Mohammad Wasim (not out) 16 *(14b, 2x4, 1x6)*, Haris Rauf c Stokes b Woakes 35 *(23b, 3x4, 3x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-5): 6; Total (in 43.3 overs): 244.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-0 (Shafique, 0.2), 2-10 (Zaman, 2.4), 3-61 (Babar, 13.6), 4-100 (Rizwan, 22.3), 5-126 (Shakeel, 27.5), 6-145 (Iftikhar, 30.1), 7-150 (Shadab, 31.4), 8-186 (Salman, 36.4), 9-191 (Afridi, 37.4).

ENGLAND BOWLING

Willey 10-0-56-3, Woakes 5.3-0-27-1, Adil Rashid 10-0-55-2, Atkinson 8-0-45-2, Moeen 10-0-60-2.

Toss: England; **PoM:** Willey.
England won by 93 runs.

The best four are in the last four: Arthur

Lights out! Shadab is done in by a Rashid special. RITU RAJ KONWAR

N. Sudarshan
KOLKATA

Pakistan's second straight fifth-place finish at the World Cup will be a bitter pill to swallow for the country's cricketing faithful. But coach Mickey Arthur seems to have already digested it.

"I really believe the best four teams in the competition are now playing the semifinals," he said after the loss to England here on Saturday. "Fifth is where we deserve to finish with the cricket that we've played over the last six weeks."

Arthur stated that the loss of pacer Naseem Shah ahead of the marquee tournament hurt the team. "Our bowling equilibrium was out of kilter because Naseem provides the consistency. It allows Shaheen Shah [Afridi] to attack, and then the leg-spinner and then Haris Rauf.

"Rauf doesn't normally bowl with the new ball. We've been working hard with him, but he bowled okay in patches."

The burly South African also opined that Pakistan had to put up big scores consistently. "We have to become a 330-350 team. Those who are doing that consistently are in the semi-ifinals. We do that when Fakhar Zaman comes off. We can't just be relying on one player."

The Pakistan-England fixture also saw a bitter-sweet ending to English speedster David Willey's international career. The left-arm seamer had announced his retirement last week after being denied a central contract, but capped his 73-match ODI journey by picking up his 100th wicket.

"It was mixed emotions," the 33-year-old said. "My situation with England has always been on the fringe. I'm next in if there's an injury, very much a squad player. And I've been at peace with that. It's not easy, never knowing where you stand from tour to tour.

"So, to just be able to enjoy my last game for England was lovely. The boys have been great. It was special to walk out [on to the field] first. They are memories I'll cherish forever."

Marsh hurricane blows away Bangladesh; Aussies roll on

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

Mitchell Marsh and Steve Smith hold the rare distinction of being the only overseas pair to have represented both the Indian Premier League franchises from Pune. The duo marked its return to one of their homes away from home in style by helping Australia make a mockery of a target of 307 set by Bangladesh in their last Men's World Cup league game.

Riding on the duo's unbroken association of 175 runs – with Marsh's mammoth hundred being the star act – Australia overhauled Bangladesh's 306 for eight with more than five overs to spare and eight wickets in hand.

The victory – Australia's seventh in a row – wasn't enough for the five-time World champion to finish second in the league stage but will hold it in good stead going into Thursday's semifinal against South Africa.

Despite Travis Head's attempted heave off Taskin Ahmed resulting in his woodwork being shattered in the third over, Marsh and the in-form David Warner kept the chase in control. While Marsh was using the long handle on a batting paradise at the Maharashtra Cricket Association stadium to the delight of the 20,000-odd spectators, Warner rotated the strike in characteristic fashion.

Soon after he crossed his fifty, Warner chipped Mustafizur Rahman to stand-in captain Najmul Hasan Shanto against the run of play. In came Smith and seamlessly continued his long hit in the net on the previous day.

None of the five bowlers employed by Bangladesh appeared to ask any questions to either of the two as Marsh and Smith kept on punishing them. Marsh's power-hitting rubbed on to Smith as well, as was displayed during his slog-sweep for a six off Nasum Ahmed's medium-pace. The young pacer had the most difficult day as he conceded a whopping 85 runs in his quota.

Had the Australia fielders not managed run-outs at key moments, Marsh may have been presented with an opportunity to join Glenn Maxwell – rested for the game – to hit a double century.

Sizzling strokeplay: Marsh flayed the bowlers all round the park during his mammoth hundred. ANI

SCOREBOARD

BANGLADESH

Tanzid Hasan c & b Abbott 36 *(34b, 6x4)*, Litton Das c Labuschagne b Zampa 36 *(45b, 5x4)*, Najmul Hossain Shanto run out 45 *(57b, 6x4)*, Towhid Hridoy c Labuschagne b Stoinis 74 *(79b, 5x4, 2x6)*, Mahmudullah run out 32 *(28b, 1x4, 3x6)*, Mushfiqur Rahim c Cummins b Zampa 21 *(24b, 1x6)*, Mehidy Hasan Miraz c Cummins b Abbott 29 *(20b, 4x4)*, Nasum Ahmed run out 7 *(11b)*, Mahedi Hasan (not out) 2 *(3b)*, Taskin Ahmed (not out) 0 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-10, nb-2, w-12): 24; Total (for eight wkts. in 50 overs): 306.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-76 (Tanzid, 11.2 overs), 2-106 (Litton, 16.4), 3-170 (Shanto, 27.5), 4-214 (Mahmudullah, 35.4), 5-251 (Mushfiqur, 42.1), 6-286 (Hridoy, 46.3), 7-303 (Mehidy, 49.1), 8-304 (Nasum, 49.3).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING

Hazlewood 7-1-21-0, Cummins 8-0-56-0, Abbott 10-0-61-2, Marsh 4-0-48-0, Zampa 10-0-32-2, Head 6-0-33-0, Stoinis 5-0-45-1.

AUSTRALIA

Travis Head b Taskin 10 *(11b, 2x4)*, David Warner c Najmul b Mustafizur 53 *(61b, 6x4)*, Mitchell Marsh (not out) 177 *(132b, 17x4, 9x6)*, Steve Smith (not out) 63 *(64b, 4x4, 1x6)*; Extras (w-4): 4; Total (for two wkts. in 44.4 overs): 307.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-12 (Head, 2.5), 2-132 (Warner, 22.1).

BANGLADESH BOWLING

Taskin 10-0-61-1, Mahedi 9-0-38-0, Nasum 10-0-85-0, Mehidy 6-0-47-0, Mustafizur 9.4-1-76-1.

Toss: Australia; **PoM:** Marsh.
Australia won by eight wickets with 32 balls to spare.

But the Australia pace pack, sans Mitchell Starc who was replaced with Sean Abbott, continued to find it difficult to strike in the PowerPlay.

Adam Zampa's yet another magnificent spell combined with Australia's magnificent fielding pulled things back.

As a result, Tauhid Hridoy scored the only fifty for Bangladesh despite all the top-seven batters getting off to a start.

At 239 for four after 40 overs, Bangladesh was in with a chance of setting an imposing total. But Zampa's three overs thereafter pulled it back for as Bangladesh could add only 67 in the last 10.

Wolves kayoes Spurs with a late one-two

EURO LEAGUES

Associated Press
WOLVERHAMPTON

Wolverhampton scored twice in stoppage time to beat Tottenham 2-1 in the Premier League on Saturday.

Mario Lemina struck in the 97th-minute after Pablo Sarabia had evened the score six minutes earlier at Molineux Stadium.

The visitors led from Brennan Johnson's goal after just three minutes.

Later, Arsenal coasted to a 3-1 win over a hapless Burnley, a result that took the Gunners to second and above Tottenham in the league standings.

Girona fought back for a 2-1 victory at Rayo Vallecano to ensure it kept its surprising lead of the Spanish league on Saturday.

The results: Premier League: Wolves 2 (Sarabia 90+1, Lemina 90+7) bt Tottenham 1 (Johnson 3); Arsenal 3 (Trossard 45+1, Saliba 57, Zinchenko 74) bt Burnley 1 (Brownhill 54); Crystal Palace 2 (Eze 5-pen, Edouard 73) lost to Everton 3 (Mykolenko 1, Doucoure 49, Gueye 86); Manchester United 1 (Lindelof 59) bt Luton Town 0.
LaLiga: Rayo Vallecano 1 (Garcia 5) lost to Girona 2 (Dovbyk 42, Savio 65).
Serie A: Lecce 2 (Sansone 66, Banda 70) drew with AC Milan 2 (Giroud 28, Reinjinders 35).
Bundesliga: Bayern Munich 4 (Kane 14, Kane 44, Guerreiro 72, Choupo-Moting 85) bt Heidenheim 2 (Kleindienst 67, Beste 70); Stuttgart 2 (Undav 42, Guirassy 83-pen) bt Borussia Dortmund 1 (Fullkrug 36).
On Friday: LaLiga: Athletic Bilbao 4 (Sancet 37, Guruzeta 45+5, 52, Berenguer 90+8-pen) bt Celta Vigo 3 (Aspas 25, Bamba 41, Larsen 66).

Lemina. GETTY IMAGES

'This meant just as much as any other hundred'

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
India (Q)	8	8	0	16	2.456
South Africa (Q)	9	7	2	14	1.261
Australia (Q)	9	7	2	14	0.841
New Zealand (Q)	9	5	4	10	0.743
Pakistan	9	4	5	8	-0.199
Afghanistan	9	4	5	8	-0.336
England	9	3	6	6	-0.572
Bangladesh	9	2	7	4	-1.087
Sri Lanka	9	2	7	4	-1.419
Netherlands	8	2	6	4	-1.635

Q: Qualified

The semifinals:
November 15: India vs. New Zealand, Mumbai, 2 p.m.
November 16: South Africa vs. Australia, Kolkata, 2 p.m.

Amol Karhadkar
PUNE

Mitchell Marsh has had an emotional fortnight. Having had to rush to Australia midway through the tournament after the passing of his grandfather, Ross, Marsh rejoined the squad.

But the all-rounder kept his emotions in check after scoring his second hundred of the Men's World Cup – also Australia's third-highest individual score in the tournament history. Asked whether this was the most emotional of his three ODI hundreds, Marsh said he was battling the conditions more than anything else.

"It's always a great honour to score 100, but I was pretty cooked to be honest. I was just starting to cramp at that stage, so I was trying to keep my heart rate low and not exert too much energy. So, yeah, this one meant just as much as any other hundred that I have ever made," Marsh said after the match.

Marsh was chuffed with the manner in which Australia has turned the tables around to set up a semifinal date against South Africa after losing the first two games.

"We are really excited. You look back to the start of the World Cup and nine games seem like a long way away," he said. "With the amount of improvement with all cricket teams around the world there has been not one easy game."

Najmul Hossain Shanto, Bangladesh's stand-in captain, reflected on the team's batting unit's poor show right through the tournament. Shanto stressed on the need to stick to a set batting order.

"To be honest, it is better if we don't (shuffle the batting order). But sometimes you have to against certain teams. But the less we do it, (the better it is)," Shanto said.

THE HINDU GROUP
THE HINDU
CRICKET WORLD CUP
TRIVIA CHALLENGE
1. Which cricketer scored the only century of the 2011 ODI World Cup final?
2. Who is the only bowler to be the leading wicket-taker in two successive editions of the ODI World Cup?
3. Who was the coach of the victorious 1996 World Cup Sri Lanka team?
Visit bit.ly/wctcterms to read the Terms & Conditions.
Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners each day will win exciting gift vouchers
Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Kumar Sangakkara
2. Adil Rashid
3. Melbourne

INBRIEF

Czechs complete BJK Cup semifinals line-up

Barbora Krejcikova and Katerina Siniakova won the decisive doubles rubber against the United States to seal Friday's tie and claim the last place in the Billie Jean King Cup semifinals. Krejcikova and Siniakova beat Danielle Collins and Taylor Townsend 6-3, 7-5 to secure top spot in Group A and set up a showdown with Canada in Seville on Saturday for a spot in the final. France beat Germany 3-0 in a dead rubber on Friday to take second in the group.

Alex Marquez wins Malaysian MotoGP sprint race

Alex Marquez won the Malaysian MotoGP sprint race at Sepang on Saturday ahead of championship rival duo Jorge Martin and Francesco Bagnaia. Spain's Marquez romped home on his Ducati nearly 1.6 seconds ahead of compatriot Martin, who closed the gap on Italy's Bagnaia in their championship tussle to 11 points.

Indian men's team clinches gold in Asian Half Marathon

The Indian men's team won gold medal while the women's side clinched a bronze in the inaugural Asian Half Marathon championship in Dubai on Saturday. The Indian men's team consisted of Sawan Barwal, Kartik Kumar and Abhishek Pal. Poonam Dinkar, Kavita Yadav and Rima Patel represented the women's team.

Sumit Nagal sails past second seed Ruusuvuori

Sumit Nagal got past second seed Emil Ruusuvuori to reach the semifinals of the €145,000 Challenger tennis tournament in Helsinki, Finland. Qualifier Nagal led 6-3, 3-1 when the Finn retired. In doubles, Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan and Vijay Sundar Prashanth set up a title clash against Sriram Balaji and Andre Begemann.

LIVE TELECAST

NBA: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7 a.m.
Badminton: Korea Open, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 a.m.
Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.
Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30, 7 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 5, 7.30, 10.30 p.m. & 1.15 a.m. (Monday)
Premier League: SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.30 & 10 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 8 & 10 p.m.
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8.45, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Monday)
Monday:
Tennis: ATP Finals, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4.30, 7, 11 p.m. & 1.30 a.m. (Tuesday)
LaLiga: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.30 a.m. (Tuesday)

SA players upbeat about semifinal against Australia

They are focused on giving their best and not on the result and don't carry baggages from the past, says Coetzee while van der Dussen dwells on the special memories in the campaign

ODI WORLD CUP

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

Happy bunch: van der Dussen says the mood in the camp is really good and the players are ready to give their best. VIJAY SONEJI

Rassie van der Dussen was 10-years-old, Andile Phehlukwayo was just three and Gerald Coetzee was not even born when South Africa featured in that classic World Cup semifinal against Australia in 1999.

None of them, obviously, have any memories of that game when a tied finish saw Australia progress to the final and eventually winning the tournament.

But come November 16 and they will be part of South Africa's semifinal with the Aussies and the current crop of players are looking forward to it.

"The whole chat around our group has been, 'you know what, on the 19th of November we will be where we need to be, whether it's lifting the trophy or not. It's fine, whatever happens will happen.' We will look to play the way we want to play and do what we want to do," said van der Dussen.

In a rather dead-rubber against Afghanistan on Friday, he stood firm and guided the team home with an unbeaten 76 off 95 deliveries.

While van der Dussen understands that the pressure will mount up ahead of a high-voltage game, he wants to keep things simple.

"At the end of the day, I think that the time we've had together the last 8 to 12 weeks with the squad will go down as probably some of the best team environments and times I've had in my career."

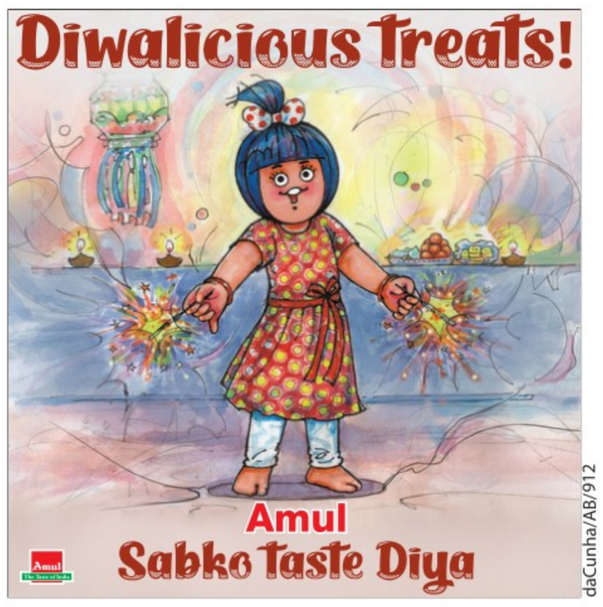
"Those memories are special already. So, whether we win or not, I don't think - that's not up to us really. Whatever will happen will happen, but we'll definitely go away from here with fond memories." he said.

South Africa has had a great run in the tournament - barring two defeats against India and The Netherlands - and it hopes to get the monkey off the back in the semis.

"What happened in the past doesn't affect us now. That's the game of cricket and we are going to get there and ensure it's a good game. Whoever wins on that day, wins - there's no dishonour in losing as long as we come to play," said Coetzee.

For Phehlukwayo, the semifinal will be all about preparation.

"We are a good team and so are they. So, whoever plays the best cricket and who comes on on that day will win. It's about the preparation and who plays the conditions the best on the day."



daCunha/AB/912

Rajpal retained as Davis Cup captain

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Rajpal. FILE PHOTO: R.V. MOORTHY

The All India Tennis Association (AITA) announced that it will retain Rohit Rajpal as the captain of the Davis Cup team till the end of 2024.

In a release issued here on Saturday, AITA secretary general Anil Dhupar expressed delight at extending Rajpal's tenure as the captain of the team.

"His leadership qualities, vast knowledge of the game, and ability to bring out the best in our players make him an invaluable asset. We have full faith in his capabilities and believe that he will continue to steer the team towards greater success in the upcoming Davis Cup campaign," said Dhupar.

Rajpal had taken over as captain of the Indian team for the tie against Pakistan that was subsequently played in Kazakhstan in 2019. Thereafter, he has been captain for six more ties against Croatia, Finland, Denmark, Norway, Denmark and Morocco.

Aakash and Deshna triumph

The best: Warriors SC, which won the KSHA-BHA 'C' division hockey league title on Saturday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

K.J. Aakash and Deshna Vanshika won the men's and women's titles respectively in the M.S. Ramaiah Memorial state-ranking table tennis tournament.

In the under-19 section, Rohith Shankar and Sahana Murthy walked away with the boys' and girl's titles respectively.

The results (finals): Men: K.J. Aakash bt Rakshit Barigidad 12-10, 8-11, 11-4, 11-3, 11-8; **Women:** Deshna Vanshika bt G. Karruna 11-8, 12-10, 12-10, 11-9 **U-19: Boys:** Rohith Shankar bt Abhinav Murthy 6-11, 6-11, 11-3, 11-9, 11-8, 13-11; **Girls:** Sahana Murthy bt Himanshi Chowdhary 12-10, 11-5, 10-12, 11-8, 11-8.

Warriors SC emerges champion

Warriors SC blanked Coorg Direwolves HC 7-0 in the final to emerge the KSHA-BHA 'C' division hockey league champion on Saturday.

Warriors received ₹30,000, while Coorg Direwolves won ₹20,000.

The third and fourth placed sides took home ₹10,000 each.

The results (final):
Warriors 7 (Yuvaraj 7, 52, Royan Rodrigues 23, Sudhar Raj 31, 56, A.N. Somaiah 49, Bopanna 59) bt Coorg Direwolves 0.
Third-place playoff: Ashco 4 (Naseeruddin 27, Vimal 31, 39, Shahanul Shafas 52) bt Haveri District 2 (Lakkan 17, Kiran 19).
Special prizes: Best goalkeeper: Dharmendhar (Ashco); **Best defender:** John Bosco (Warriors); **Best midfielder:** Ravi Kumar (Haveri District); **Best forward:** Vishal (Coorg Direwolves); **Player-of-the-tournament:** Yuvaraj (Warriors).

Djokovic fired up for an eighth time at year-end No. 1

ATP FINALS

Associated Press
TURIN

Novak Djokovic has already done well enough at holding off the rise of the so-called "Next Gen" by keeping players like Alexander Zverev, Stefanos Tsitsipas and Daniil Medvedev from winning more titles.

Now, for the first time at the ATP Finals, Djokovic is joined by the three players who are being labelled the "Young Gen."

Carlos Alcaraz, 20 years old and already a U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion, is making his debut at the season-ending tournament for the year's top eight players after missing the event last year with an injury.

Jannik Sinner, 22 and coming in red hot after recent titles in China and Vienna, will be playing before a home crowd with the Italian ranked a career-high No. 4.

Holger Rune, 20 and already with two wins over Djokovic, will renew his budding rivalry with the 24-time Grand Slam champion in the featured match when the tournament opens Sunday on the fast indoor court at the Pala Alpitour.

"Thanks for reminding me of the age – Next Gen, Young Gen – I don't know where I fit it, in which kind of gen group," the 36-year-old Djokovic said Friday.

"Being able to be compete with the young guys is always extra motivation for me, because I know that they are hungry and have big goals and objectives to win these kinds of tournaments... So that inspires me even more to play my best tennis."

Djokovic needs just one more match win to secure the year-end No. 1 ranking for a record-extending eighth time.

The groups: Green: Novak Djokovic (1), Jannik Sinner (4), Stefanos Tsitsipas (6), Holger Rune (8).
Red: Carlos Alcaraz (2), Daniil Medvedev (3), Andrey Rublev (5), Alexander Zverev (7).

The experienced and the hungry: For the first time at the ATP Finals, Djokovic will be joined by three players who are being labelled the Young Gen. GETTY IMAGES

Namdhari pips RKFC, bags first win

I-LEAGUE

ANI
SRI BHAINI SAHIB, PUNJAB

Namdhari FC clinched a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Real Kashmir (RKFC) in the 2023-24 I-League at the Namdhari Stadium in Sri Bhaini Sahib on Saturday.

Winger Harmanpreet Singh opened the scoring for Namdhari in the 36th minute to give Francesc Bonet's side the lead.

Real Kashmir displayed effort in its quest for an equaliser before the conclusion of the first half, yet despite its determined attempts, was unable to break the Namdhari defence.

It was a similar situation to Namdhari's last match against Inter Kashi where Harmanpreet's goal had put them in the lead at half-time before they let in four goals in the second half to come out empty-handed.

However, the story would not repeat on Saturday afternoon as the hosts held on to their narrow lead to win their first-ever I-League match. Namdhari ascended to the eighth position with four points from three matches.

Dhiraj earns India's first quota place

ARCHERY

Sports Bureau

B. Dhiraj earned the first Olympics quota place for the country in archery at the Asian Continental Qualifier Tournament (ACQT) in Bangkok on Saturday.

Tarundeep Rai and Ankita Bhakat exited from the race for quota places in the last-eight stage.

The results:
Recurve: Individual: Men: B. Dhiraj bt Sadegh Ashrafi Bavlili (Iri) 6-0 in **QF**, bt Mohammadhossein Golshani Asl (Iri) 6-0 in **SF**, lost to Lin Zih-Siang (Tpe) 6-5 (10-9) in **final.** Tarundeep Rai lost to Lin Zih-Siang (Tpe) 6-0 in **QF**. **Women:** Ankita Bhakat lost to Ziyodakhon Abdusattorova (Uzb) 6-4 in **QF**.

Dhiraj. FILE PHOTO

Inyouwebelieve is expected to score in Kabini Cup

BENGALURU: Inyouwebelieve, who has been well-prepared, is expected to score in the Kabini Cup (1,200m), the main event of the races to be held here on Sunday (Nov 12) (postponed from Saturday (Nov 11).
False rails (width about 6.5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

1 SHIMSHA PLATE (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2.00 p.m.: 1. Cinco De Mayo (10) S. Shareef 62.5, 2. Golden Gallery (4) Darshan 62, 3. Contador (9) S. John 61, 4. Elite Agent (7) Kiran Rai 60, 5. Infinite Spirit (2) Saddam H 58, 6. Lady Godiva (1) M. Chandrashekar 58, 7. Anne Boleyn (3) Tousif 57, 8. Marco Polo (5) L.A. Rozario 55.5, 9. Ultimate Choice (8) P. Surya 54 and 10. Perfect Halo (6) M. Rajesh K 52.5.
1. CONTADOR, 2. CINCO DE MAYO, 3. GOLDEN GALLERY

2 HEBBE FALLS PLATE (Div. II), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 2.30: 1. Southern Power (1) Akshay K 61, 2. Ultimate Striker (8) Antony 60.5, 3. Noble Ruler (9) Darshan 54, 4. Sling Shot (5) Vinod Shinde 53.5, 5. Domina (4) Arvind K 53, 6. Chiraag (10) Tousif 52.5, 7. Apollo Light (3) P. Surya 52, 8. Princess Jasmine (11) Shreyas S 52, 9. Je Ne Sais Quoi (6) L.A. Rozario 51.5, 10. Altamonte (7) Jagadeesh 51 and 11. Sacred Creator (2) M. Rajesh K 51.
1. SOUTHERN POWER, 2. ULTIMATE STRIKER, 3. ALTAMONTE

3 BLACK CAVIAR PLATE (1,100m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3.00: 1. Cadmus (7) B. Nayak 57, 2. Palomino (6) Akshay K 57, 3. Super Sapphire (9) Suraj 57, 4. Crosswater (1) Antony 55.5, 5. Greeley (5) L.A. Rozario 55.5, 6. Prophecy (2) S. Saqlain 55.5, 7. Seeking The Stars (4) Inayat 55.5, 8. Shadow' Saim (8) Rayan 55.5 and 9. Tankinika (3) Salman Khan 55.5.
1. SUPER SAPPHIRE, 2. PROPHECY, 3. PALOMINO

4 HOGENAKKAL FALLS PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 3.30: 1. Aircraft (2) Srinath 61.5, 2. Pharazon (12) L.A. Rozario 61, 3. Queen Of Kyiv (8) Suraj 60.5, 4. Armory (3) Kiran Rai 60, 5. Momentous (6) M. Prabhakaran 60, 6. Lady Invictus (10) Inayat 59, 7. Julio (9) Akshay K 58.5, 8. Ebotse (4) Antony 55, 9. Breeze Bluster (5) Darshan 54.5, 10. She's A Lady (1) S. Saqlain 53.5, 11. Estefania (11) Likith Appu 52 and 12. My Visionary (7) Arvind K 52.
1. QUEEN OF KYIV, 2. PHARAZON, 3. JULIO

5 ARDENT KNIGHT TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 4.00: 1. Prime Abbess (10) Antony 60, 2. Millbrook (6) S. John 59.5, 3. Armstrong (7) Akshay K 59, 4. Impiana (1) L.A. Rozario 57, 5. Mystic Eye (4) S. Shareef 56.5, 6. Anakin (8) Vinod Shinde 56, 7. Four Wheel Drive (5) Inayat 56, 8. Golden Vision (2) Rayan 56, 9. Able One (11) Jagadeesh 54, 10. Own Legacy (3) Darshan 54 and 11. Klimt (9) S. Saqlain 53.
1. PRINCE ABBESS, 2. ARMSTRONG, 3. ABLE ONE

6 KABINI CUP (1,200m), rated 60 to 85, 4.30: 1. Eternal Princess (6) P. Siddaraju 60.5, 2. Michigan Melody (3) Koshi K 57.5, 3. Amreli (5) Srinath 55.5, 4. English Bay (1) Ashok K 55.5, 5. Disruptor (4) Rayan 53.5, 6. Promise Kept (2) Likith Appu 53, 7. Inyouwebelieve (8) Akshay K 52.5 and 8. Knight In Hooves (7) Salman Khan 52.5.
1. INYOUWEBELIEVE, 2. ETERNAL PRINCESS, 3. AMRELI

7 HEBBE FALLS PLATE (Div. I), (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over, 5.00: 1. Super Kind (5) R. Pradeep 62, 2. Augusto (7) S. Shareef 61.5, 3. Memorable Time (2) Vinod Shinde 61, 4. Ombudsman (8) Shreyas S 59.5, 5. Schafenberg (4) Saddam H 59, 6. Southern Dynasty (3) Darshan 59, 7. The Omega Man (6) Salman Khan 59, 8. My Vision (1) Antony 56, 9. Ultimate Chance (9) S. Saqlain 55.5 and 10. Limited Edition (10) L.A. Rozario 54.
1. LIMITED EDITION, 2. AUGUSTO, 3. ULTIMATE CHANCE
Day's best: **QUEEN OF KYIV**
Double: **CONTADOR - SUPER SAPPHIRE**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

India stays on top with win over SA

LAVER CUP

Sports Bureau

Rushil Khosla, Manas Dhamne and Sohini Mohanty won their singles and doubles matches to guide India to a 5-1 victory over South Africa in the fourth league match of the IC Rod Laver World junior challenge at the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club in San Diego, California.

Asmi Adkar was the only one to lose her singles match, while Sohini was stretched in the singles rubber.

India had earlier beaten Britain, USA and Italy. It was scheduled to play Argentina in the last league match.

The results (league): India bt South Africa 5-1 (Manas Dhamne bt Guy Vorwerk 6-3, 6-1; Rushil Khosla bt Simphiewe Ngwenya 6-0, 6-2; Asmi Adkar lost to Mari-Llouise Van Zyl 3-6, 1-6; Sohini Mohanty bt Kaitlyn Ramduth 6-4, 7-6(7); Rushil & Manas bt Simphiwe & Guy 6-0, 6-3; Asmi & Sohini bt Kaitlyn & Mari-Louise 6-3, 6-1).